

# FASHIONS · LATEST · WHIMS ·

## CLOTHES AND ECONOMY

It Is Possible for the Woman With a Limited Income to Dress Smartly—She Must Pay Close Attention to the Details.

The woman who can dress smartly on a limited income deserves a generous amount of praise. It is a comparatively simple proposition for the woman who has plenty of money to give a clothes artist carte blanche with instructions to provide the proper clothes. Such a woman has no excuse if she is not well dressed. The only difficulty for her lies in the selection of the clothes artist. The problem before the woman with a meagre amount of money to spend for clothes is quite a different one, and it is especially difficult to solve if her social position demands that she shall mingle with women provided with a far larger share of this world's goods. It requires many hours of careful planning and an amazing success in execution. One must be practical, far-sighted, conservative, and yet sufficiently daring in the little touches to give that indefinable air of chic to her costumes; intelligent enough to understand values; and with certain clairvoyant powers to forecast the trend of fashion. A few women are born with these characteristics; a few more acquire them after years of experience, but the great majority follow the leaders like sheep and trust to luck that the results will be successful.

**A GOOD SUIT EVERY OTHER YEAR**

Experience has taught the observing woman that she will receive better value from one good suit than from a cheap one every other year than if she buys a cheap one each season. The one good suit fashioned from a durable material, and cut with conservative lines, which are always in good style in a tailored suit, will give satisfaction for two seasons at least. There are always little touches, new collars and cuffs, for instance, that will lend an up-to-date air to the suit of last season. The cheap suit, though it may possess the latest style features when it is purchased, will lose its lines quickly and, even before the first season is over, will not look as well as the second-hand suit of good material.

The woman who must wear her suit for two seasons is not going to select a striking color—that is, if she is wise. It is a difficult task, often times, to handle the heart against the fascinations of the new materials in their bright colorings, but the reward comes the next season, when

the suit in the "marked" coloring will have to visit the dye pot if it is to be worn at all.

**EXTREMES HAVE SHORT VOGUE.**

The extremes in cut and line are not for the woman who must count her pennies, for the smartest costume will call forth criticism if it is worn too often, and an extreme style is noted far more quickly than a conservative one. This does not mean that she shall not wear good-looking, up-to-date costumes with the new lines, but it is a word of warning against indulging in styles so extreme that they are in vogue for a short season at the best, and are often discarded by the smartly gowned woman before the season is over.

**MIXED SUITS.**

The mode calling for mixed suits is a blessing for the woman who has a coat that is in good condition. Skirts wear out so much faster than the coats that economical women have been ordering two skirts to be worn with the same coat; this year the coat can be worn with a skirt of a different material and in a contrasting shade, and the general effect will be up to the minute.

The mixed suit in the sketch is a good model for either cloth or cotton tulle, and clearly shows how the checked skirt may be combined with the coat of a past vintage. The buttons are of blue rimmed with red, repeating the touch of red in the waistcoat and adding one of those little touches that invariably distinguish a costume and set it off so little that the woman with a limited income can make good use of them.

**NEWEST COATS SHORT.**

The very newest coats are all short, and the majority follow the lines of the bolero and the Eton. The latter is being exhibited by some of the well known French couturiers in its simplest form, the style so familiar several seasons ago. It fastens at the neck, generally with a bow of ribbon, and the fronts fall open to reveal the dainty net blouse, and it is very short, reaching only to the waist line in the front, though extending several inches longer in the back. It is simple and girlish, and it is fetching in a wool, a silk or a cotton material. It is quite ideal for wear in hot weather. The boleros are intended for the dressy, tailored costumes, especially the silk three-piece costumes, and are cut either on the lines of the old-time bolero, reaching to the waist line both in front and in the back, or falling slightly below the waist line in the front and with an elongated back. In either style they are very fetching, though only becoming to slender, girlish figures.

**COATEES NECESSARY.**

The wrap shown in the sketch can be utilized in many ways. It is fashioned from blue poplin, a rich Mediterranean blue, which is now being worn on the streets and is also appropriate for social functions. It is lined with a flowered batiste, so that it will not be uncomfortably warm in summer, when it completes the garden party gown. It frankly blows below the waist, and the fullness is gathered into bands of the material, which cling closely to the hips. A delightfully picturesque air is lent by the high Medici collar, and the ornaments of cord at the neck and at the bust line are quite sufficient trimming. There is a novel feature introduced into the sleeves. The sleeve itself is put into the normal armhole, and the low shoulder is permitted to fall over it, giving very much the same effect as the low shoulder seam, an effect which is accentuated by the cord finishing.

**FROCK IN THE SKETCH.**

This wrap could be worn with a one-piece silk frock similar to the one in the illustration, with perfect propriety. While this frock shows many of the new style features, it is conservative enough to appeal to any woman. It may be fashioned from almost any silk fabric. Canton crepe will give excellent service; so will chambrase, and the shantung, soft taffetas and foulards, which are being extensively used by the French designers. The skirt is so slightly draped that it is becoming to any figure; even the short, dumpled little woman need not fear that it will detract from her height. The bodice is softly draped in surplice fashion to display a V-shaped opening. This may be filled in with lace, with folds of tulle, or with colored batiste to match one of the shades in the gaily colored sash. The dainty frill may be of the same material as the vest, or a contrasting one, depending largely on the amount of money the wearer desires to spend on the frock. These frills are prettiest when they are slightly gathered, though the pleated frills have by no means lost caste. The frill is arranged to stand erect in the back in a manner reminiscent of the Medici collar, a feat accomplished by invisible wire at the sides and in the back. The sleeve with the low shoulder seam is almost as familiar as its predecessor, the kimono sleeve, and from the extended shoulder the sleeve may fall slightly full to the cuff, which is finished with a frill matching the one encircling the neck. If the waist line is of such generous proportions that it should not be accentuated, the sash may be of the material; otherwise a sash of Roman striped silk of one of the new printed stuffs, which are wonderfully effective, would add the dash of color necessary to bring the costume right up to the minute.

**Boudoir Secrets**

As if to rival the flowers, the perfumers always put forth their best efforts in the spring. And as if they feared the competition of the blossoms in their native setting, they encase their essences of the flowers in the most artistic and beautiful coverings. The modest little cyclamen has not shed its fragrance in vain in the mountains of Europe for it is now immortalized in perfume, and the master glass maker Lalique has designed the bottle in which it is enclosed. The liquid is colorless, and if one did not catch a whiff of the perfume it might be taken for water. The bottle is of generous proportions, containing almost two ounces, and sells for \$7.

**A NEW CONCENTREE.**

Among the concentrées there is a new odor suggesting Nippon. It is a bouquet scent with just a reminiscent thought of cherry blossoms, and is, in fact, one of the best perfumes bearing the name Japanese.



COSTUMES FOR LIMITED INCOMES.

Although the bottles are tiny, one drop is quite sufficient to lend a fragrant aroma for hours, and the price of \$1.75 does not, therefore, seem exorbitant.

**TO SCENT THE CLOTHES CLOSET.**

One of the most satisfactory methods of scenting the clothes closet, or in fact any receptacle for clothes, is a spice bag. These bags are imported from Egypt and are as pretty as they are fragrant. The spices are arranged on a cushion of cotton batting and covered with white gauze. The freshness of this bag permits the various colors of the spices to glisten through, giving a very pretty effect. The bags are tied with narrow satin ribbon and can be hung anywhere, though the best results are obtained in the narrow confines of a closet or drawer. The odor is so unusual and so very refreshing and appealing that many women hang them beside the dressing table, thus perfuming the entire room. They are very reasonably priced at \$1.50.

**A GOOD DRESSING CREAM.**

The winds of April are almost as trying to the skin as those of March, and one should, therefore, take special precautions in caring for the complexion. It only takes a few minutes before going out to apply a little greaseless cream, but these few minutes' care will often save time and money in the future. By giving the skin a thin coating of the cream it is protected against the elements of the weather and against the millions of dust germs. It enters immediately into the pores of the skin, leaving no trace of grease, and forms a very satisfactory foundation for the dust of powder. One of the well known creams has a delicate violet fragrance which makes it appealing to fastidious women, and gives to the skin that delightful dull finish so ardently desired. The porcelain container is so good looking that it is an addition to the dressing table, and the most is very modest—only 50 cents.

**SAFETY PIN HOLDER.**

Safety pins by the gross are a necessity in the nursery, and one ingenious mind has evolved a new scheme whereby they may always be at hand. A tiny little bell is made from hand-painted ribbon, and the different sized brass safety pins are hung to form the clappers. A pyroxylin ring makes an excellent handle through which to run the ribbon, and two or three bells may dangle from the same one. Two of the bells can be bought for 20 cents and three for 25 cents.

**BABY'S POWDER BOX.**

Another novel gift for the little newcomer is a powder box and puff. The shape of the box is unusual, being round instead of square. It measures about three and a half inches in diameter. As it is three inches in height it will hold a goodly supply of powder. It comes in imitation ivory and is decorated with pink or blue flowers, making it appropriate for either a girl or a boy. The fittings continue the color scheme, the handle of the puff, tucked away in the box decorated with pink flowers, being of pink ivory, with a bow of ribbon in the same coloring. These pretty little trinkets, which have a practical use, can be bought for \$1.75.

**SUGGESTION FOR THE HOSTESS.**

When one is planning to open the country house it is well to think of the stranger soon to be behind its doors. So many comforts have been devised for the modern guests that they expect them even in homes where the income is limited. There are certain toilet necessities which can be provided at a small cost and which add greatly to the pleasure of the guests. One of these is the individual cake of soap. Surely it would not prove taxing to invest 19 cents for a box containing four cakes of one of the reliable soaps. Naturally these cakes are

very small, but a little larger size can be bought for the same amount of money with the difference that there are three, instead of four, cakes in the box. The soap leaves on the hands a pleasant delicate violet odor.

**A NOVELTY MANICURE SET.**

One of the most compact containers for the necessities required in manicuring the nails is in the shape of an egg. It is made from the imitation ivory, which is so satisfactory for toilet articles, and is about three inches and a half in height. As it is weighted at the larger end it will hold an upright position. The fittings, of course, are miniature in size, but they are all there, made also of the imitation ivory. It is such a neat little article that it would be just the thing for the guest room, particularly if the fittings of the dressing table are in the imitation ivory, and it is not expensive, as it can be bought for \$2.

**Cubist Art in Hosiery**

For several years the role played by hosiery in the scheme of smart dressing has been increasing in importance, and this season the slashed skirt has given to it a stellar part. Certainly if one decided



A TAILORED SUIT, WITH DRAPED SKIRT.

to show the stocking through a slight slashing at the side, or to permit the drape to display the ankle, it is in better taste to wear hosiery matching the skirt than to invite further criticism by a strong contrast in colors. This idea has brought into prominence the colored stockings and it is now possible to match almost any of the new shades used in dress materials. When stockings contrasting with the color of the skirt are worn they must harmonize with some feature of the toilet. They may, for instance, blend with the trimming of the hat or the color motif of the sash, but there must be some connection with the costume. The French women seem to be gifted with an innate knowledge of these clever connecting links in the make-

up of their costumes. These little touches are well worth studying, for they give an air to the costume which can be acquired in no other way. A knowledge of such things is particularly valuable to the woman who is attempting to dress well on a limited income, for very often, at a comparatively small expense, she can give the effect of smartness which her friend who may have spent twice as much money on her toilette.

**LIFE OF SILK STOCKINGS.**

While the woman with limited means can often produce successful results with her hosiery, she has long been accustomed to view with alarm the allowance for stockings on the carefully thought-out expense list. To begin with, it is always a variable amount, for the life of silk stockings—and one must wear silk stockings—is most uncertain, as one stocking can sometimes last three or four days, while another never be satisfactorily repaired. While there is no security against this unfortunate state of affairs, still the chances of a prolonged life are better when the stockings are not too small and when they are not stretched by too tight garters. If a woman feels that she must pull up her stockings tightly by the garters, by all means buy stockings with plenty of room in the calf. Some well known hosiery houses sell what are called "outsizes" for this very purpose. The wide garter tops or hems also save many a disastrous ladder, and the life feet, as a rule, wear longer than the silk. The guaranteed stockings, too, are safe.

**NEW STYLES.**

So much for the practical ideas which should be heeded in buying hosiery; now for the new styles. For morning wear the zombre effects are still considered good. They have not been popularized, probably because the price must necessarily be conservative, however, are the deep blue stockings to wear with the suits of navy blue, and the equally good looking brown ones to harmonize with the brown and tan shades. Some of these stockings have an embroidered clock at the side in self-tone, black or white, or the small polka dots. The novelty promised for this next week is the block or check design in black and white, blue and white and brown and white. The American woman as a rule does not take kindly to checks, even in dress materials, and it is a question just how well these stockings will be received. They are intended to be worn with the checked suits, and if the skirt is slashed the idea would be a good one, otherwise they would be more appropriate with sporting costumes. The gay colorings of the once popular golf stockings paved the way for daring effects in the hosiery worn with the typical sporting costume.

**GAY CUBIST HOSE.**

The gayest of all stockings shown this season are those with the Cubist designs, boldly embroidered on the instep or above the ankle. With the influence of the Cubist art permeating all the various branches of the toilet, it is not surprising to find examples of it in hosiery, but they will not appeal to the woman who is dressing on a limited amount of money, at the best they are only a fad of short duration. Nor will they appeal very strongly to the perfectly groomed woman who likes the exclusive articles of apparel.

**DAY AND EVENING WEAR.**

The stockings to match the afternoon and evening frocks are really lovely. The daintiest and prettiest are those displaying insets of lace. The designers have not hesitated to use the real Chantilly and Duchesse lace for these insets, which take various shapes. The bow knot is an effective design, and the butterfly is as well, but neither of them is as well liked as the clocks of lace at the side. As if the beauty of the lace were not sufficient, pearls and rhinestones are

scattered over the filmy surface, and the newest stockings display clocks entirely of the pearl and rhinestone embroidery. The effect is striking when a contrast color is produced by inlaying black lace into the white or colored silk stockings, and the white lace in the black hosiery.

**COLORED EMBROIDERY.**

As might be expected, colored embroidery on black silk stockings has returned to favor, and offers a very "gentle" means of procuring the color note. For evening the pretty floral designs are still decorated with tiny rhinestones set in the center. In this case the satin slipper should match the color of the flower and carry a bow knot or buckle of rhinestones.

**CONSERVATIVE IN SHOES.**

The shoe item on the expense account, which must be thoughtfully scrutinized, is another one which may reach alarming proportions if care is not taken in shopping. It is necessary for a well groomed woman to be neatly shod; hence, she must buy a certain number of shoes, boots and slippers each season. She will receive better values and enjoy more satisfactory results if she selects the more conservative styles. There are very few good looking colonial pumps in a dull gray leather, as well as in suede, with square buckles covered with the leather. The same style is reproduced in bronze, in a dull, pretty brown leather, in patent leather with the upper part in white leather, if a more unusual effect is desired, and in all white. This is an excellent style for the streets, and can be worn with propriety either in the morning or the afternoon.

**PORCELAIN HEELS.**

If the love of color must be indulged, there are the heels of the dressy slippers. All sorts of curious color schemes and odd effects can be displayed here. The very latest conceit from across the seas is the white porcelain heel, hand painted. It is claimed that these heels are practical, though it must be admitted that the idea does not suggest service. The red heels are being very universally worn.

**WAISTCOATS.**

Another article, which every woman will desire, is one of the new waistcoats. Whether they are made in your mannish style to accompany the tailored suit, with all the frills that the old-time dandy demanded, they are fascinating. The tailored vests are fashioned from the new piqué or rine, and are cut very similar to a man's dress-suit vest, while the more elaborate ones are of brocaded satin, broche crepes, flowered silks, silk cretonnes and various other silk and cotton stuffs. They are more pretentious, extending often below the waist line in V-shaped points. It is possible to buy in the shoe waltostocks with pleated chiffon jabots and other appurtenances, which may be worn in the piece of a blouse when there is no desire to remove the coat.

**SASH AN ATTRACTIVE ADDITION.**

As large waists are required in the latest silhouette, the majority of women need not hesitate to add a sash to the dress of cloth or silk. It will change the appearance of the frock more than any other addition that could be made, and yet it is a simple matter that may be accomplished without the aid of a dressmaker. The sashes of striped Roman silk, finished with long, black silk fringe, can now be bought in the shops. These may be swathed around the hips or draped to encircle the waistline.

There are various styles of draping these sashes and the choice should be governed entirely by whichever style may be the most becoming. The "bayadere" style is easily managed; it has a loosely caught knot and ends fall from the left hip. A sash in bright green adds a dash, but wonderfully effective, touch to a navy blue serge frock, and one in the subtle terra-cotta tone lends charm to a rich brown chamoisee. The large, square bow in the back, which goes by the name of the "pump" bow, or at times the Japanese bow, conceals the fastening of the sash draped around the waist. The turnover end, as shown in the sketch, is so satisfactory that it is still used on some of the newest frocks.

## DETAILS ARE IMPORTANT

Finishing Touches Mean Much to the Woman of Limited Income.

The details of the costume have a far deeper meaning to the woman who is attempting to dress smartly on a limited income than to her friend with the well-filled purse. The latter depends on the dressmaker to add the latest touches, the details that make or mar the costume, and while she admires them as part of the whole, but the woman who is seeking to obtain a fashionable effect with a very slight expenditure must give much care and thought to these details. A collar displaying the latest style features will bring the coat of yesterday up to date in a twinkling, or one of the new sashes will lend so smart an air to the silk frock which has served all winter under the fur coat that even the owner will almost forget it is not a new creation.

**COLLARS AND CUFFS.**

Of all the accessories that may be called to the aid of the economical women, collars, or collars and cuffs, are perhaps the most important and helpful. The expense will be much curtailed if it is possible to make these accessories at home, and the average woman should possess sufficient knowledge of the needle to make them, especially with the aid of one of the good paper patterns. The variety spread before admiring eyes this spring is positively bewildering. Even the much discussed eubist and futurist influence has crept into the realm of neckwear. Thus far it has shown itself merely in a collar of silk, with the curious polygonal effects in brilliant colorings, or in a tiny bow heading three tiers of pleated ecru lace.

**JAPANESE COLLARS.**

The Japanese influence on collars is noted in the extended shoulder portions which rest broadly on the shoulders and leave the neck quite free in the back. When a collar extends nearly to the waist line in the back and almost to the waist line again in front, at least to the bust line, it becomes an impressive bit of ornamentation and may be expected to hide all traces of an old frock. One of the popular French designers is making many of her new silk frocks with collars of batiste and fine linen which give the effect of a hood in the back. They are pointed and finished with a tassel, matching the colored embroidery, which is used discreetly on the neck collar, the revers and the hood portion. Others are even more elaborate, having a tuxedo vest brightened with tiny colored buttons and a draped flange of embroidered net. The neck may be finished with a band of ribbon harmonizing with the color note struck by the buttons or with a softly pleated frill of the net.

**VIVID COLORINGS COMMONPLACE.**

A little hand embroidery adds tremendously to the chic of the collar and the cuffs, and if it is done at home the cost is trifling. Many women who do not feel capable of making the collar itself buy a becoming shape in the plain net or marquisette and embroider it. The fad for vivid colorings is becoming so very commonplace that the more fastidious women are returning to the soft pastel tints. Wool embroidery is very effective, especially on net and on the coarser stuffs, and the long tansey stitch is the favorite. It fairly eats up material, by the way, so that a collar and cuff set can be embroidered in a short afternoon.

**RUCHES IN DEMAND.**

Both for the sake of health and of fashion a ruche of some kind is in demand when the furs are first sent to storage. The marine ruches have been the first place, and some delightful color schemes have been evolved by combining such shades as blue and green, lavender and purple, terra cotta and green, cerise and brown, etc. For the smartest effects these ruches should be worn with the bow at the side or in the back. The long leather bows have returned to favor, and the woman who has cherished one left over from several seasons ago need only fasten it directly in the waist and permit one end to fall to the back line. There are other women who have not held over bows who do not like the effect of a coat and a collarless blouse.

## Daily Bill of Fare.

**MONDAY.**

**BREAKFAST.**—Stewed apricots, creamed chicken, coffee.  
**LUNCHEON.**—Braised lamb tongue, toast, orange marmalade, tea.  
**DINNER.**—Asparagus soup, Escoffier's grilled cod, new potatoes, spinach salad, Versailles cream.  
**GRILLED COD ESCOFFIER.**—Have ready slices of cod that are about one or two inches thick. Season these slices with salt and pepper and brush them all over with melted butter. Then broil them, basting frequently with melted butter. Place them on a hot dish, garnished with lemon and parsley, and serve with anchovy butter or maitre d'hotel sauce.

**VERSAILLES CREAM.**

This dessert is moulded so that it can stand alone when turned out on a platter. Have ready a quart of milk, three-quarters of a cupful of sugar, a teaspoonful of vanilla extract, a scant half teaspoonful of salt, six eggs and two tablespoonfuls of water. Put the water and about half the sugar into a frying pan. Stir them together until a rich red-brown syrup forms, taking care that it does not burn. Have the milk boiling slowly and stir this caramel into it. Beat together the eggs, the salt and the rest of the sugar. Add the vanilla and stir the mixture into the milk. Butter a two quart mould very lightly and pour the cream into it. Put the mixture into a basin of warm (not hot) water and bake it in a slow oven until it is firm in the centre. When done set it in the icebox to become very cold before serving. Turn it out on a platter when serving time arrives, and decorate it with whipped cream.