

EELSKIN BODICES

Tight Skirts Destined To Have Dangerous Rivals.

WHEN eelskin skirts appeared conservative women with one accord indignantly declared that the height of immodesty in dress had been reached. Seemingly they have erred, for now comes the eelskin skin tight bodice to bear it company. No line of the body is left undefined if the new bodice is built by a master hand. It is, however, safe to predict a brilliant future for the jersey fitting bodice despite the uncompromising criticism which greeted its first public appearance. In its cut are combined the elements

made conspicuous. The desire for little trimmings is apparent and seldom will the beauty of the garment be marred by so much as a band of ribbon. Developed in all over embroidery, with a low neck corset cover of shell pink silk, this new bodice made its startling Newport debut. It was a bit difficult to tell where silk ceased and flesh began, so perfectly matched were the two. Though this last innovation in the world of dress is the most daring I've ever encountered, it is also the most artistic. Women with fine shoulders

SUMMER SKIRT WITH ACCORDION PLAITED FLOUNCES.



In the gauzy gown here pictured is presented the first indication that some summer skirts are to be composed entirely of deep flounces. It is of oyster white mousseline. The flouncing is accordion plaited and arranged on the skirt in a sort of spiral swathing which presents the appearance of three flounces. Each flounce is edged with a narrow double ruching, which adds to the general fullness.

The bodice is a simple affair, fastening invisibly at the left side under ruching a trifle wider than that adorning the skirt. No lace trimming is used. Its absence is not only a relief to the eyes, but permits one to appreciate fully the beauty of self trimmed muslins. The narrow ribbon belt and stock each have the bat wing bow planted squarely in front. This would be a model gown for the woman not yet 40 who looks young enough to dress gayly, but whose better judgment suggests that a picture is prettier in unobtrusive setting.

ments of success. For this if for no other reason its instantaneous popularity is almost assured.

To begin with, the high underarm which few modistes regard rightly becomes a necessity in the new bodice. Upon this depends the free use of your arms and liberty of motion in general. It also provides a small armhole, which is the secret of perfect fitting tight sleeves that bind nowhere. Long, sloping shoulder seams which unreservedly reveal lines and curves are another attribute of the new bodice. The bodice is cut in three pieces. Two sections of cloth form the back and one the front and underarm pieces. It is made to fasten invisibly behind, and it is without darts. The front is stretched plainly yoke depth. Below this the fullness is laid in two tiny plaits at the waist line. By this means the low bust effect

and good arms have never before had like opportunity to display them outside a ballroom. The influence of the new bodice will compel the return of tight fitting skirts for at least the summer season. Judging by the smart crowds seen in the shops and the beautiful gowns I discovered among their belongings, the out of town season is to be a gay one, although the European exodus apparently has been unparalleled. In New York, as well as in Paris, there is quite a rage for taffeta and glaze silks for day wear. Dresses of silk are used extensively for traveling. There is also a new kind of alpaca called woolan which is particularly well liked for summer wear. Embroidered holland linen is the latest washable material for trips to town from the country.

For evening wear at large functions panne is very "distingue," but for formal occasions painted muslins are the thing. Among the gowns I was privileged to see I greatly admired a little Doucet dress of pale blue, with embroidered cream muslin arranged like a fichu and tucked into a deep slash of pale pink oriental satin. But prettier than this even was a sheer muslin of pale blue and white, with delicious touches of pale mauve in sash form, and as a vest an overlay of coarse lace, and a picturesque kerchief of embroidered batiste becomingly draped round the shoulders completed the bodice and suggested an artistic hat. Another little muslin frock was striped with rose color and had tiny bouquets of roses, with smart touches of black and white ribbon. And the magnificent simplicity of a plique skirt and bolero coat, with incrustations of coarse lace, quite won my heart. The coolest looking holland frock was made quite important and up to date by self colored embroideries. Distinctly "French" was a flannel skirt of pale rose and white plaid, with a bolero of white edged by a piping of the plaid. The coat was worn with an open waistcoat of pale pink and a knotted black satin necktie falling over a white muslin shirt, with soft ruffles of lace. There were smart tailor frocks in all the latest shades of sand color and cinnamon, with stunning bolero coats en suite. With a black cloth skirt there was a little scarlet coat of glass silk fastened over with one enormous gold filigree button and finished at the throat with a big director's bow, which was new and novel. Mme. F. is making a specialty of colored boleros, pale pink and blue, to wear alternately with a white cloth skirt and ruffled muslin shirt. A picture tailor frock, according to her idea, is cloth of royal blue. This, too, has the indispensable bolero coat, with a collar of real lace and an old world edging of silk fringe. It is worn over a silk skirt of pale lavender blue made gorgeous with narrow ribbons and real lace.

The sensation of the hour, however, is an evening dress of black net, with applique point lace coming in points up the skirt, run through with pink ribbons and almost hidden under an embroidery of pale pink chiffon roses. The bodice is a stroke of genius, too, the deep lace, which again is all roses, coming high in a point at the back, but falling right down to the waist in front, where a magnificent cluster of pink roses ends over a fullness of net and one wonderful sleeve. It is a dress too striking to be repeated, and, happily, it is the property of some one who can wear it well.

There was a very novel Callot evening frock of black spotted with white. It is to be worn over white chiffon and black satin, with insertions of lace and a softness of black and white tulle. Sparkling ornaments of silver appear at belt and on shoulders. Another lovely evening dress was cloudy gray, with yellow Maltese lace and a belt and belt of raised embroideries in silver sequins.

In the pursuit of frivolous fashions I often encounter those that are practical. Last week I discovered some aids to the small boy's happiness. It lacks the picturesque possibilities of the small girl's summer attire, does that of the small boy, but it has a certain sturdy charm of its own. Johnny in "jumpers" may not be so pretty as Frances in frilled aprons, but no one can doubt his entire readiness for all the good times that come his way. The heart of his mother takes comfort in him, for she realizes that comfort in denim or ticking against slits on stumps, her labors as a mother are lessened.

There are two styles of "jumper" favored by fashion. One consists of trousers set on a broad band and strapped over the shoulders; the other comes in two pieces—trousers and all covering blouse. Clad in this, the small boy's white shirt waist and linen trousers are protected against all injury, and he may be made ready to "drive with mamma" or "walk with papa" at a minute's notice.

Knee pads bear the same relation to the stockings that "jumpers" do to the suit. They protect the small boy's hairy at its most vulnerable point. They are made of soft black leather lined with padding. They are shaped to fit the knee and are kept in place by elastic bands. The youth who is obliged to spend his vacation in town is an unhappy person, with enormous capacity for rendering others unhappy also, unless some outlet is provided for his energies. The sand heap is an institution beloved by the mothers of restless boys. It may be dumped in a back yard of modest dimensions, and half the delights of the seashore are opened at once to the sons of the household. A tent is a comparatively inexpensive plaything and is warranted to make any healthy youth happy if placed in a corner of the yard. In it he may be a wild Indian, a warrior, a rough rider, or almost any of the personages he delights to honor and imitate.

It is an excellent idea to have some indoor apparatus for exercising. On rainy days Johnny will not be so likely to smash his sister's dolls out of pure exuberance of spirit if he has exercised on chest weights in his room or swung a ring and rope arrangement in his doorway.

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MRS. ROWLAND'S ADVICE ON FOOD AND EXERCISE.

A PERSON who takes little exercise is often troubled with a sluggish liver. No one whose bodily organs are not in good working order can hope to have a good skin. The cure for that state, of course, is the permanent removal of the cause by means of proper exercise and food. Sometimes heroic measures are necessary to get the blood into proper trim. Once the blood is thoroughly cleansed and the machinery of the body in good working order, two goblets of hot water should be swallowed before breakfast each morning and two before going to bed at night. If the taste of the water is too unpleasant, it may be modified by adding sugar and milk.

There are a number of old fashioned remedies for putting the blood and liver into good condition. Among these are sulphur, cream of tartar and Rochelle salts. The danger in using the latter is that one is likely to take cold easily after using it. I am an earnest advocate of the benefits derived from walking. I never permit a day to pass without taking some exercise of this sort. A walk of several miles every morning is what most of us need. Of course, no one may expect to start out with a long stretch and not feel fatigued. Those who are unused to pedestrian

exercise should begin by walking a mile the first day, a mile and a half the second day, two miles the third day, four miles the fourth day and five miles the fifth day. Never walk until exhausted. Those who are not physically able to stand the five mile course will be able to judge what they can endure, and the distance may be increased more gradually. The scale I have suggested is for persons of moderately good physique. Those who follow this regime will soon find themselves stronger and better. Move briskly when walking and with some definite goal in view.

MARY SCOTT ROWLAND, New York City.

THE MOODS OF WOMEN.

A woman who resides in the Back Bay district of Boston hired an automobile the other day and started out to make a round of calls. Presently she noticed that not only was the vehicle moving at an alarming rate, but that she had passed the address given to the operator as the first stopping place. The occupant of the cab thereupon stuck her head out of the window and called to the man outside to stop, only to be informed that he had lost control of the machine and would have to go on until the power should be exhausted. At the end of an hour and a half the automobile came to a stop out in the suburbs,

13 miles from the starting place, and the operator went back to Boston for assistance. The woman returned on an electric car and had to pay her own fare. Miss Piroja Banagi, who has recently taken her M. A. at the University of Bombay, is the first lady to advance further than the B. A. degree. She is a member of a clever family, her sister Dhanag being an artist who had the good fortune to be a pupil of Bonnat. She has exhibited at the Paris salon. The French chamber of deputies has decided that the young ladies who serve behind the counters in stores may occasionally sit down, and a bill has been passed compelling proprietors of shops to provide seats for their saleswomen. It now only remains for the senate to confirm this concession to young women to make them happy.

Miss Annie S. Peck of Boston has been invited to act as delegate to the congress on Alphonse connected with the Paris exposition. Secretary Long has selected Miss Mary Thornton Davis, daughter of Charles Thornton Davis, judge of the court of registration of Boston, to christen torpedo boat No. 23, which is soon to be launched. The vessel will be named the Thornton in honor of the late Captain James S. Thornton of the navy, who was executive officer of the original Kearsarge when she destroyed the Confederate privateer Alabama. A new organization has been proposed by a prominent San Francisco woman. It is to be known as the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Women. The object is to agitate against the alleged reckless and indiscriminate use of the knife upon women by surgeons. Mrs. T. J. Sparks, head of the movement, says that doctors and surgeons by the score are cutting women to pieces, ruining them and often killing them. Mrs. Sparks formerly lived in Cleveland. A taste for the best reading is not cultivated in Spanish girls, even where

THE AMERICAN WOMAN IN WAR.

THE MEMORIAL SEASON Recalls Stories of Her Courage and Sacrifices.

AMERICAN wars have produced heroines as brave and self sacrificing as the wives and daughters of the burghers of South Africa, and the recurrence of the soldiers' memorial season is a fitting time to consider the services of those who have been honored by the recognition of the army and the fellowship of veterans. In the ranks of noncombatants and as nurses on the field of battle and in hospitals at the front, where devotion to duty was attended with suffering often ending in death, were found the modern Joan of Arc and Florence Nightingale. Memorials of war would therefore be incomplete did they fail to perpetuate the story of martial heroines.

Deborah Sampson, the heroine of 1776, was an enlisted soldier serving in the disguise of a man, like many of the Boer women, and there were scores of cases of the kind discovered by accident in the civil war. Molly Pitcher of Monmouth renewed volunteered for the emergency of battle, and both the north and the south found women to brave every danger at the call of duty.

In a higher sphere, while the crisis of 1776 had its Mrs. Philip Schuyler, Mrs. Nathaniel Greene and Martha Washington, patient and tender helpmates in the camps of their husbands, civil war annals are graced with the names of Mrs. John C. Breckinridge and Mrs. A. P. Hill, the wives of southern generals, and in the northern army General Barlow and General Ricketts were attended by their wives throughout the conflict, even when prisoners to the enemy. Both Mrs. Ricketts and Mrs. Barlow cared for the soldiers at the front, and Mrs. Barlow died in the field from exposure in the hospitals during the Richmond campaign of 1864.

The first woman to claim right to membership in the G. A. R. was Mrs. Robert S. Brownell, the wife of a Rhode Island soldier. Kady Brownell was the daughter of an English soldier and was brought up in the barracks. At the beginning of the war, in 1861, she was attached to her husband's company, and when it went to the front she was enlisted as color bearer, remaining in service until he was wounded and discharged. But the most noted G. A. R. woman veteran is Sarah Edmons Seeley, who was mustered into the order at Houston, Tex., by Commander in Chief A. G. Weissert. Mrs. Seeley's military service was a romance. She ran away from home to escape an unwelcome suitor, and in the disguise of a man enlisted in the Second Michigan as Franklin Thompson. After serving with honor two years she had reason to believe her secret had been discovered, and she disappeared. Of course she was rated as a deserter, but congress, upon inquiring into the facts on record,

removed the stain of desertion and granted an honorable discharge and a pension.

The thought of a woman in the army naturally calls up the picture of the "Vivandiere, or, Daughter of the Regiment," a character known to poetry and the drama. Very few of this class really served in the civil war. Many were given the title as a compliment and appeared at times on parade. But the Zouaves d'Afrique copied, with their uniform and tactics, the institution of vivandiere. Mary Tebe, an Alsatienne, the wife of a German volunteer, served with this regiment and was decorated with the Kourany cross for her service at the battle of Fredericksburg, where she was wounded.

In the dual capacity of companion to her soldier husband and nurse for the sick and wounded Belle Macomber Reynolds followed the fortunes of the Seventeenth Illinois and was formally commissioned "Daughter of the Regiment," with the rank of major, by Governor Yates. Miss Annie Ethridge served through the war with the Second and Fifth Michigan and may be said to stand as the American type of the vivandiere. She rode on horseback dressed in riding habit and wearing a military cap. At Chancellorsville she and her horse were wounded by the same bullet. Having free range over the field, Annie often directed the soldiers, and more than once in a crisis rallied them to action which was timely and of value. She was a woman of great courage and presence of mind and led men in the hour of danger by sheer force of example.

The role of spy is one especially adapted to women in a civil war. Several noted female spies served the north and the south, and there is no case on record where they betrayed a trust which they once accepted. Major Pauline Cushman became famous through her dramatic debut and long service. Early in the war, while an actress in Louisville, she interpolated the toast, "Here's to the Southern Confederacy," and was sent across the lines for treason. Using the advantages conferred by her hearty welcome in the south, she gathered valuable information for the north and was given the honorary brevet of major.

In a similar way Miss Ford, a belle of Fairfax, Va., served the cause of the south. The home of Miss Ford was the headquarters of Federal officers, and she betrayed their secrets to the enemy, acting often in collusion with the redoubtable night rider Mosby.

In Kentucky and Tennessee Mrs. John Mance served the cause of the south. She was a woman of nerve and daring and at times wore a man's uniform and fought in the ranks. She is believed to have been inspired by a spirit of revenge, her husband having died in a northern prison. The murder of her

THE BUTTERFLY DANCING FROCK.



This striking evening gown of embroidered tulle is called "the butterfly dancing frock." On it appear a dozen or more pretty jetted butterflies with wings outstretched to span the length of the skirt and bodice. These are placed diagonally from the left shoulder to the hem of the skirt. The bodice is also constructed. It is cut low and round in the front and V shaped in the back. Its oddity is further emphasized by long sleeves and a heavy jetted dog collar. Buckles and tulle rosettes adorn the upper part of the sleeves. From the rosette on the right sleeve springs a sash drapery artistically arranged around the bust and under the belt, from which point it is permitted to flow freely a two long lengths to the bottom of the dress. The sash ends are decorated with huge jet butterflies.

husband by Quantrell's outlaws led Mrs. Jacob Stiles of Missouri to serve the north as guide and spy.

The famous Ruffin family of Virginia sent to the field a heroine who fought in many campaigns in the ranks of the Fourth Virginia infantry. She was wounded and captured at Gettysburg, but maintained her disguise to the end. Mrs. L. M. Blaylock, in man's disguise, served in the same company with her husband in the Twenty-sixth North Carolina.

To the women who bore themselves amid the perils of the field with true womanly courage and dignity all honor is due, but not less is it due to those in the more humble but equally trying labors of nursing at the front. Around the memory of this class of heroines, typified by "Mother" Bickerdyke and Dorothy Dix, the veteran paints a halo of reverence. Above all others, they bore the sacred attributes of mother and sister amid the turmoil and hardships of war. FRANCES HYDE.

COMBS AND CLASP.

With the hair dressed high on the head as it now is, the use of many small ornaments for decoration is popular. These vary from all sorts of tiny combs to the jeweled clasp designed to hold the stray locks of hair about the neck in place. These clasps are variously made of gold or silver and are more often than not ornamented with jewels. Pearls, turquoises, diamonds and topazes are the stones most often seen adorning these hair clasps. High up under the roll, on top of the head, a long comb is used to hold the longer strands of hair in place and this, too, is as often as not much jeweled. The comb in the oil is seldom a large one and is very often gold or silver filigree.



CHILDREN'S FEARS.

There are few things more depressing to the moral nature than fear, the expectation of pain. Healthy being is impossible under its influence, and use of our earliest cares must be to prevent its even entering the atmosphere of a child's life. Timidity and courage are alike easily developed, and it is the business of parents to foster the latter while avoiding in every way to call the former into growth. It is perhaps too much to say that upon the impressions and influences of the first seven years of our life depends our possession of the virtue of courage or our servitude to the demon of fear.

Man, both in his early and later years, has a dread of the unknown, to an infant everything is unknown, and he behoves its parents to watch that a new experience should come to it with fear. A sudden sense of helplessness and solitude may be dangerously terrifying to a baby. The dark is terrible, always associated with a sense of security and the mother's embracing arms. Children should never be put to sleep in a room without some shaded light and the nurse within hearing of the slightest noise. If, on waking, they are not thus quickly reassured by light and attendance, they may suffer agonies of fear long before they can explain what they are feeling.

No children, however young, should ever hear disagreeable or frightful things said in their presence. Ghosts and goblins, stories, murders and terrible descriptions of every kind, such as those in "Bluebeard" and "The Forty Thieves," ugly, uncanny, mysterious and painful pictures—everything capable of exciting fear—must be avoided by the entire household. An imaginative child will contrive to build on the slightest mysterious suggestion an image of dread which may haunt him for years.

SHE SET A NEW FASHION.

The etiquette at the Austrian court is probably more strict and severe than that of any other court in Europe, and some years ago was even more so. The present emperress, however, has broken down a great many of the formalities attached to court life. It is related that at the first dinner party given by the emperor to his bride—the ill fated empress who met her death at the hands of an assassin a year or two ago—the court ladies were quite scandalized by her taking off her gloves before sitting down to dinner. One of the closest female friends of the emperress remarked on this to him. "Why not," replied the emperor, "it is more comfortable."

"Because it is not fashionable," she replied to the lady. "Well, then, she will set the fashion," was the retort. And it became so.



Fan shaped panels are the latest modification of the now popular plaited skirt. Sometimes they extend the entire length, while at other times they are inserted just below the knee. In this case they may begin at the waist line, but the plaits are held in place by several rows of stitching until within eight inches of the skirt hem, where they are allowed to flare. The five gored skirt of last season may be brought up to date by the introduction of fan plaits. It is not necessary that the cloth be the same. Indeed it is in better taste to use silk of a similar shade for the panels. The pretty gown here shown is of blue broadcloth, with shallow panels decorated in black ball fringe. With it is worn a collarless Eton coat cut out in points over a batiste blouse belted and collared in pink panne. The dashing coarse straw hat is of pink, as is the ruffled sunshade.

who was executive officer of the original Kearsarge when she destroyed the Confederate privateer Alabama.

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A taste for the best reading is not cultivated in Spanish girls, even where

the treasures of that great Castilian literature are accessible to them. Convent education knows nothing of Calderon. Love and religion are the only subjects with which a senorita is expected to concern herself. Happiness is thus made to hang on a chance. Even where a Spanish girl wins her crown of widowhood and motherhood her ignorance and poverty of thought tell heavily against the most essential interests of family life.

Mrs. Lizzie F. Long has been a member of the library board of Barry, Ill., for 25 years and its president for three years.

active working commissioners to the Paris exposition from New York state. China has produced a lady dramatist. Her name is Wionew, she is under 30 years of age and for many years she has written plays. In China, however, there seems to be a prejudice against women dramatists, and, accordingly, this clever lady has left her native land and come to America. One of her plays was produced some time ago at San Francisco.

Miss Mamie Hale of Columbia, Mo., will draw the plans and furnish the specifications for the two buildings to be erected at Marshall for the Missouri state asylum for the feeble minded. When Ambassador Choate received

his honorary degree at Edinburgh university some weeks ago, the ceremonies were supplemented by the conferring of honors on an English woman—Miss Omerod—who has achieved distinction as an entomologist.

Mrs. Rosine Ryan and Mrs. Betty Bryan were prominent delegates at the transmississippi commercial congress recently held at Houston, Tex. They conducted a prosperous real estate business in that city.

Miss Mary Lynch, president of the School Teachers' Society of Chicago, wants to have some vegetable patches in the public parks, that the school children may see for themselves how vegetables grow.