



Cloth Gown With Lace Blouse.



The New Cornet Hat.



New Styles in Shirt Waist Suits.

FASHION, FAD AND FANCY

THE SHIRT WAIST SUIT AGAIN

Popular as Ever, but Has Undergone Many Changes—Tucks Continue to be Greatly Used and Pretty Dresses and Separate Waists Are Made Easy of Construction—Some of the New Accessories Demanded by Fashion.

Written for The Observer.

So much has been said about separate waists this spring, which seem to have taken a new hold in the fashion world, that for a time it has appeared as if these were going to take the place of the shirtwaist suits so popular a year ago. Now, however, these attractive suits are being plotted again, and no doubt we shall have them in great numbers. It is said to be as popular as ever, but has undergone so many changes that its old admirers scarcely recognize it in its various new guises. One feature remains, and that is the sweet simplicity of the mode, which has been supplemented by many little accessories that make it better suited for all-round wear. These suits will be made of silk and all sorts of wash fabrics. Just as last year, our sketch No. 1 to-day shows one of these.

NEW STYLES IN SHIRTWAIST SUITS

Here represented made of silk. This model is characteristic of the latest designs for the ever-popular shirtwaist suit. It is built up of polka-dot silk, effectively trimmed with self-stitchings and straps of plain taffeta. The skirt is cut in circular shape, and its trimmings end just where the knees widen into the flared effect. The most striking feature of the costume is the bodice, which fastens over the waist line showing beneath a girdele of dark silk bound with taffeta such as is used upon the skirt. The neck is cut low to show a vest of delicate linen and finishes with a quaint collar

of silk. On either side of the front are broad plaits widening into epaulettes frills at the shoulders. The puffed sleeves are finished with bands of taffeta and lace. This design may be used nicely made of any wash material, but for my own part I think the suit would be prettier to leave off those tails to the waist, making the skirt to fasten over the top of the waist. Just as we have been in the habit of doing, of course the suit as designed is newer, but after all, only a matter of taste whether we shall use it or not.

Tucks continue to be greatly used, hemstitched ones being especially popular, and certainly these alone, or combined with lace, constitute a trimming not to be equalled for wash or lingerie dresses and waists. Our design for sketch No. 2 shows just this thing, that is,

THE USES OF TUCKING.

"Even to the most unobservant it must be apparent how popular tucking is in every form this season. Certainly it was never used to better advantage than on the lingerie blouses, of which the supply seems inexhaustible. The design sketched here is of white organza, as crisp and fresh as a cucumber. The tucks run in opposite directions and their arrangement is accentuated by narrow bands of embroidery with clothes of lace at the end of every group of tucks. There is a pointed yoke outlined with lace and embroidery, three rows deep. The sleeves are not tucked, although the trimming of the bodice is simulated by stitched bands of embroidery and lace, with graduated ruffles finishing the full elbow puffs." Continuing in regard to the use of tucking, I have just seen in some fashion notes that, "There is no occasion of dress when tucking is not apropos, from the simplest house design to the most elaborate calling toilet."

Truly, when tucking is in vogue no one need be at a loss in knowing how to construct pretty dresses and separate waists.

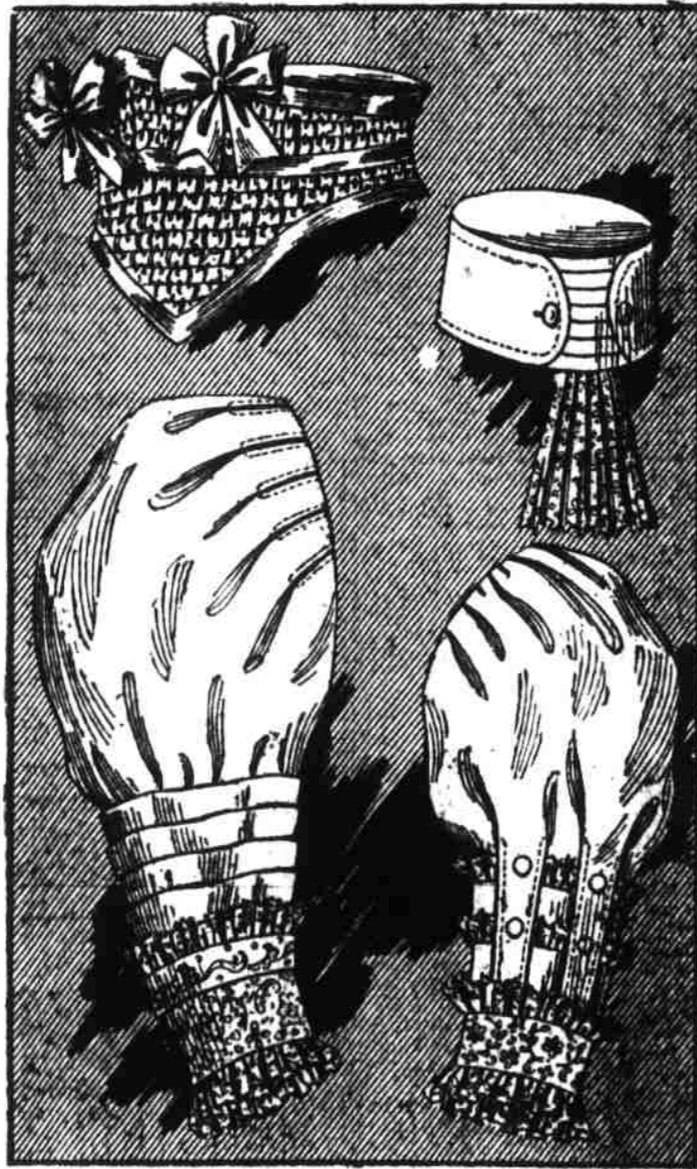
Something for

SMALL GIRLS AND EMPIRE MODES

is designed for us in sketch No. 3. "The Empire and Directoire modes have sometimes invaded the province of childhood, but we now see them at their height. This little frock is built of soft silk, trimmed with embroidery and the Empire bolero is of taffeta in a much darker shade, bound with the dress material and finished with narrow ruchings of thread lace. This lip is laid in side plaits and finished with a deep hem above which there are rows of stitching and a delicate tracery of eyelet embroidery." The suit here shown is as attractive as can be for a little lady, and no doubt the shirt sleeves like the grown-up wear, will appeal to them especially.

Am glad to say that cut No. 4 to-

tobacco brown Leghorn, rolled abruptly at the left side and trimmed with a wreath of red roses. The brim has a border of brown and white straw and the low spreading crown is edged with garlands of the tiniest red rosebuds and green leaves set above a full ruching of brown maine in the latest tobacco tint. The brown shades are going to be very much worn again this year, and no trimming consists better with them than American beauty roses, or flowers of the fashionable new rose shades." This statement in regard to the continued use of brown rather surprises one, for I am sure other colors, such as the various shades of blue and green, especially the latter, are far more popular. It may be that this new cornet hat is pretty, but I must confess my own personal inability



Some New Accessories.

day shows something we have not had here—I mean on this page. Accessories are more than ever worn and used, it seems, or may be styled, under this head. At any rate here we have given what are styled

SOME NEW ACCESSORIES

"Times importance attaches to the small belongings of dress this season, and the accessories portrayed here show fashion's latest vagaries. Two distinct types of sleeves are shown, each as smart as the other, yet so different in treatment. They meet upon one common ground in the matter of decoration, however, for lace and embroidery are used upon both, with the addition of simulated tucks in one case and buttons in the other. The latest sleeves show few, if any, gauging at the top. The fullness is disposed of either in tiny stitched plaits or tucks, the modistes claiming that these produce a more graceful puff. The girdele is one of the new lingerie affairs developed in soft silk which is shirred over a pointed foundation of wire and bound with strips of ribbon. This particular style is much used with separate skirts to gain the popular princess effect and its cutting and fitting requires the skill of an artist, for it is a work of art. Girdeles of tucks and embroidery are usually smart, the tucks being used to fill in the center, with embroidery for the border, but there is nothing new in them to the materials and trimmings combined in the up-to-date girdele. The collar shown is extremely simple and entirely within scope of the home artist. It is a band of silk, with pointed ends buttoning over a tuckled strip, which is finished with a jahot of lace."

I suppose there was never a time when so much attention was paid to belts, for there seem to be, literally, hundreds of styles upon the market. New leather belts have weird Oriental designs, silvered and gilded, upon the rich, dark tones of the leather. These, and white or colored line belts, represent the forenoon fets for the ubiquitous white waist, still in great favor, and to be largely counted on for the summer." Besides these, there are the gold and silver ones, together with more elaborate ribbon affairs which are still growing in popular favor.

THE NEW CORNET HATS.

Sketch No. 3 shows one of them described as "a very chic model in

to discover the attractiveness claimed for it. Sketch No. 6 shows an attractive looking suit, designated as a

CLOTH GOWN WITH LACE BLOUSE.

"One of the smartest fads of the moment is the cloth gown with lace blouse, and a striking example of this fashion is shown here. Face cloth in the new line called mousseline—a deliciously soft creu—is used, the blouse being as near the same shade as it is possible to match cloth and lace. Tucking plays an important part in the trimming of the skirt, both fine and wide tucks being used effectively and bordered with motif silk braid. The fullness about the hips is laid in stitched tucks. There is a skeleton of cloth or tucks, the modistes claiming that these produce a more graceful puff. The girdele is one of the new lingerie affairs developed in soft silk which is shirred over a pointed foundation of wire and bound with strips of ribbon. This particular style is much used with separate skirts to gain the popular princess effect and its cutting and fitting requires the skill of an artist, for it is a work of art. Girdeles of tucks and embroidery are usually smart, the tucks being used to fill in the center, with embroidery for the border, but there is nothing new in them to the materials and trimmings combined in the up-to-date girdele. The collar shown is extremely simple and entirely within scope of the home artist. It is a band of silk, with pointed ends buttoning over a tuckled strip, which is finished with a jahot of lace."

Lace is surely being used more and more, and of course as the demand for it grows, greater and greater becomes the output. The making of this beautiful stuff has become a regular industry of the Indians of northern Minnesota. Here in the wide of the pine forests are made lace bedspreads that sell for \$300 to \$400, and other exquisitely fashioned pieces that have taken prizes at the various world's fairs. Besides this, "all kinds of laces are made, from narrow edging to exquisite boleros, jackets and berthes." It is said that these laces are beautifully made, the Indians turning their talent for bead making into this direction. Schools have been established among them for the purpose of training them in lace-making, and the industry is rapidly growing. It is said, however, that the most exquisite work is done by the old squaws, "who love to give play to their imagination in the making of odd designs, such as lamp shades with figures and canoes." Of course all of these hand made laces

are expensive, and, I suppose, must of necessity always be so—and yet it does seem to me as this industry grows that the prices will be somewhat reduced. At any rate some of us hope so, for now these beautifully wrought patterns in hand made laces are far beyond our reach. DOROTHY.

TABLE TALK.

A SIMPLE DINNER MENU.

A letter received from a personal friend has furnished me with a text for our weekly article and, as it is in line with the experience of many women, I do feel that I cannot do better than to quote a few lines: "It is hard to tell what is the best method to adopt when entertaining a number of friends at a meal as I keep no maid. Very few of the ladies here do as it is almost impossible to get one; those who are here ask an exorbitant wage, are poor cooks and have no idea how to serve a meal. How can I best accomplish the simple entertaining of friends?"

There are few of us who have not, at some time or other, been called to go through with this experience and so, for the sake of the younger housewives who are struggling with the problem, let me give a few hints from the pages of experience.

When guests are neighbors and so flow suffers because of the lack and efficiency of domestic servants they will understand and make due allowance for certain shoddy comings which are inevitable. Plan the meal beforehand with direct reference to making a monogram of cooking and serving at the last moment. First select such dishes as can be prepared wholly or in part some time before the meal. Set the table ready for the first course and, if it is warm weather, the windows open and a strong breeze with dust throw over all a cover made of several breadths of cheese cloth. Select the china, glass and silver for the various courses and arrange on the sideboard or an extra side table, putting the set for each course by itself. In the kitchen put a table as near to the communicating door as possible; keep half of it clear to receive the soiled dishes. On the other end place the platters, etc., on which to dish up that hot food. When the meal time arrives put the first course on the table before asking your guests into the dining room; when it is finished they will, presumably, be deep in conversation while you are employed in changing the dishes. Having every thing in readiness this

will take but a few moments and you can resume your seat. When there is no host to do the honors it will relieve you if you are at liberty to ask one or more of the guests to serve certain dishes.

Take, for instance, the following dinner menu which may be served in four or six courses as you may select:

- Devilled Salmon
- Braised Beef
- Mashed Potatoes
- Tomato Mayonnaise
- Fruit Jelly
- Coffee
- Cucumber Sauce
- Brown Gravy
- Green Peas
- Cheese Wafers
- Cake

The bouillon, Mayonnaise, jelly and cake may be made the previous day. Early in the morning prepare the fish dish, using canned salmon; scald and peel the tomatoes, prepare the cheese wafers (or they can be bought in cartons), grate the cucumber, peel the peas, prepare the meat and put it in the oven. Then arrange the table. The vegetables selected will cook in about the same time and while they are cooking put the salad together, the fish in the oven, cut the cake, make the coffee (grip), put the bread, butter and other cold eatables on the table and the soup on to heat. Finish the cucumber sauce, mash the potatoes, make the beef gravy and set the finished coffee in a pan of hot water that it may keep at the right temperature yet not boil. All this will take about three quarters of an hour, less if you have the assistance of some other member of the household.

In serving, remove the soup plates, take the fish from the oven and bring it with the platters which have been standing on the warming shelf. For the next course bring in the meat and vegetables; if you wish, you may also place the salad and wafers on the table or make it a separate course. When the salad is finished clear the table and set on the desert. The coffee may come on a moment later or you may wait until the desert is finished. When the guests are in the house for but one meal it is no slur upon your housekeeping if you close the door of the dining room when the meal is over and forget that there is such a thing as dish washing until after they have gone.

DEVILLED SALMON.

Open a can of salmon and turn it out, removing all bones and skin. Put one tablespoonful of butter and one heaping tablespoonful of flour in a saucepan over a fire; when mixed add one half of a teaspoonful of salt, a dash of cayenne, a grating of nutmeg and one cutful of cream. Stir

until smooth and thick, and the yolks of three hard boiled eggs mashed fine, take from the fire and add one teaspoonful of chopped parsley and the fish bones in small shaves. Taste and add more seasoning if necessary. It needs to be highly seasoned; turn into a greased baking dish or individual shells, sprinkle with buttered bread crumbs and bake in a quick oven until brown.

CUCUMBER SAUCE.

Parse one cucumber, cut into quarters, remove and discard the seeds. Grate and squeeze in a piece of cheese cloth to extract as much of the juice as possible then mix the pulp with one cupful of very thick mayonnaise. The mixing must not be done until just before it is served or it will thin the mayonnaise too much. Pass in a small boat with the fish.

BRAISED BEEF.

Trim and wipe the beef which may be cut from the rump, cross rib or top sirloin and which should be in such shape as to be as thick as possible. Remove the fat from the top and put another quarter of a pound of fat salt pork out in thin slices; over this spread equal quantities of thinly sliced or chopped onion; turnip, carrot and celery—about a scant pint altogether when colored is out of season substitute a half teaspoonful of celery seed. Heat a frying pan until it smokes, lay in the rest and sear it rapidly on all sides until covered with a thin brown crust. Transfer it to the braising pan—any deep pan with a tight cover will do—laying it directly upon the vegetables. Dredge with salt and pepper. Pour a pint of stock or hot water in the pan, cover closely and place in a moderate oven. Allow thirty minutes to the pound. When done thicken the gravy with browned flour and strain it into a boat. CORNELIA C. BEDFORD.

OLD MAN BLEDSOE ILL.

Over a Century Old, He Chews Tobacco and Drinks—Alleged Assault on Mrs. Leakey Arrested—Misses New Water System in Operation.

Correspondence of The Observer.

Marion, April 19.—Old Man Bledsoe, living about three miles from Marion, is at the point of death. This would probably be a bit of news of little or no importance but for the fact that he is probably as old a man as lives in the State. He was born November 11, 1804, at a place known as Black Horn Falls, Cumberland county, making him 101 years old at his next birthday. There is something remarkable about this old man, too. He is an inveterate tobacco chewer and was not a total abstainer, by any means. Up to the time he was taken ill he would ride into Marion on a wild young mule that would be a task for a person many years his junior to attempt. He is a man of no means but has always worked hard and made a good citizen. He will be missed should he not recover. The heir-at-law of Bratcher, Hemphill, deceased, has sold the Hemphill home place in McDowell county to Messrs. Pitts and Giles, for the timber thereon, at \$10,000.

A young man, Charles Morris, of Black Mountain, was arrested last week, charged with beating the old lady, Mrs. Leakey, over the face with a stick, which was reported in the columns of this paper. He was not a total abstainer, by any means. Up to the time he was taken ill he would ride into Marion on a wild young mule that would be a task for a person many years his junior to attempt. He is a man of no means but has always worked hard and made a good citizen. He will be missed should he not recover.

The heir-at-law of Bratcher, Hemphill, deceased, has sold the Hemphill home place in McDowell county to Messrs. Pitts and Giles, for the timber thereon, at \$10,000. A young man, Charles Morris, of Black Mountain, was arrested last week, charged with beating the old lady, Mrs. Leakey, over the face with a stick, which was reported in the columns of this paper. He was not a total abstainer, by any means. Up to the time he was taken ill he would ride into Marion on a wild young mule that would be a task for a person many years his junior to attempt. He is a man of no means but has always worked hard and made a good citizen. He will be missed should he not recover.

Water has been turned on and Marion now has a fine system of water and sewerage as any town in the State. The water is obtained from a bored well 700 feet deep. A test of the pressure was made last week by Old & Company and water was turned on. It was thrown over the large dome on top of the First National Bank building, the highest building in town. Mr. J. Y. Joyner, State superintendent of public instruction, will make a campaign in company with Prof. D. F. Giles, county superintendent, in Crooked Creek township, this county, in behalf of special taxation for public schools.

Would-be Burglar Shot.

Wadesboro, April 20.—Kershaw Ballard, a negro who gave his home at Hamlet, attempted to break in the house of Noah Ramsey, colored, this morning about daybreak and was shot by Grant Ratliff, a negro boy who was staying in the house. The ball penetrated his left breast and glanced around the ribs. The wound is not considered very serious. He had been drinking heavily during the day, and was crazy drunk at the time. He is now in jail awaiting a hearing.



Small Girls and Empire Models.



The Uses of Tucking.

Always Uniform  
Always Reliable  
Everywhere Obtainable

**BAKER'S  
CHOCOLATE  
& COCOA**

have stood the tests of time and service for over 125 years

Be sure that you get the genuine with the trade-mark on the package.

Directions for preparing most of our one hundred dining dishes in our Choice Recipe Book, sent free on request.

Walter Baker & Co. Ltd.  
Dorchester, Mass.

46 Highest Awards in Europe and America