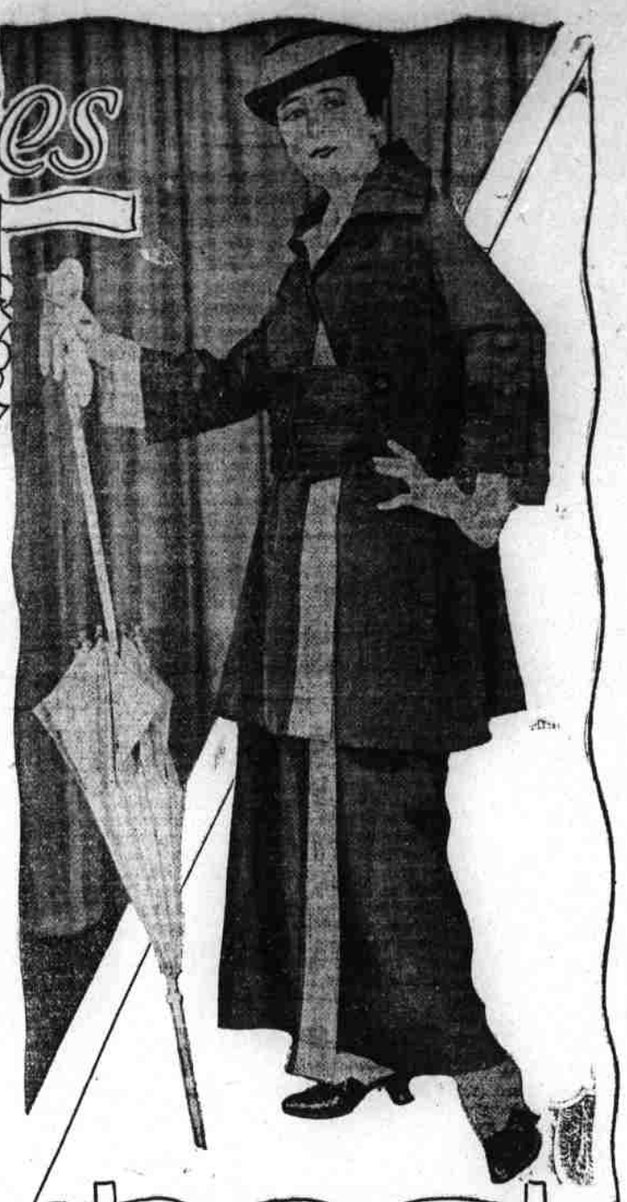
# "Dressed Up" Dresses

## Good and Bad Taste in Fashion Elaboration Described by Lady Duff-Gordon

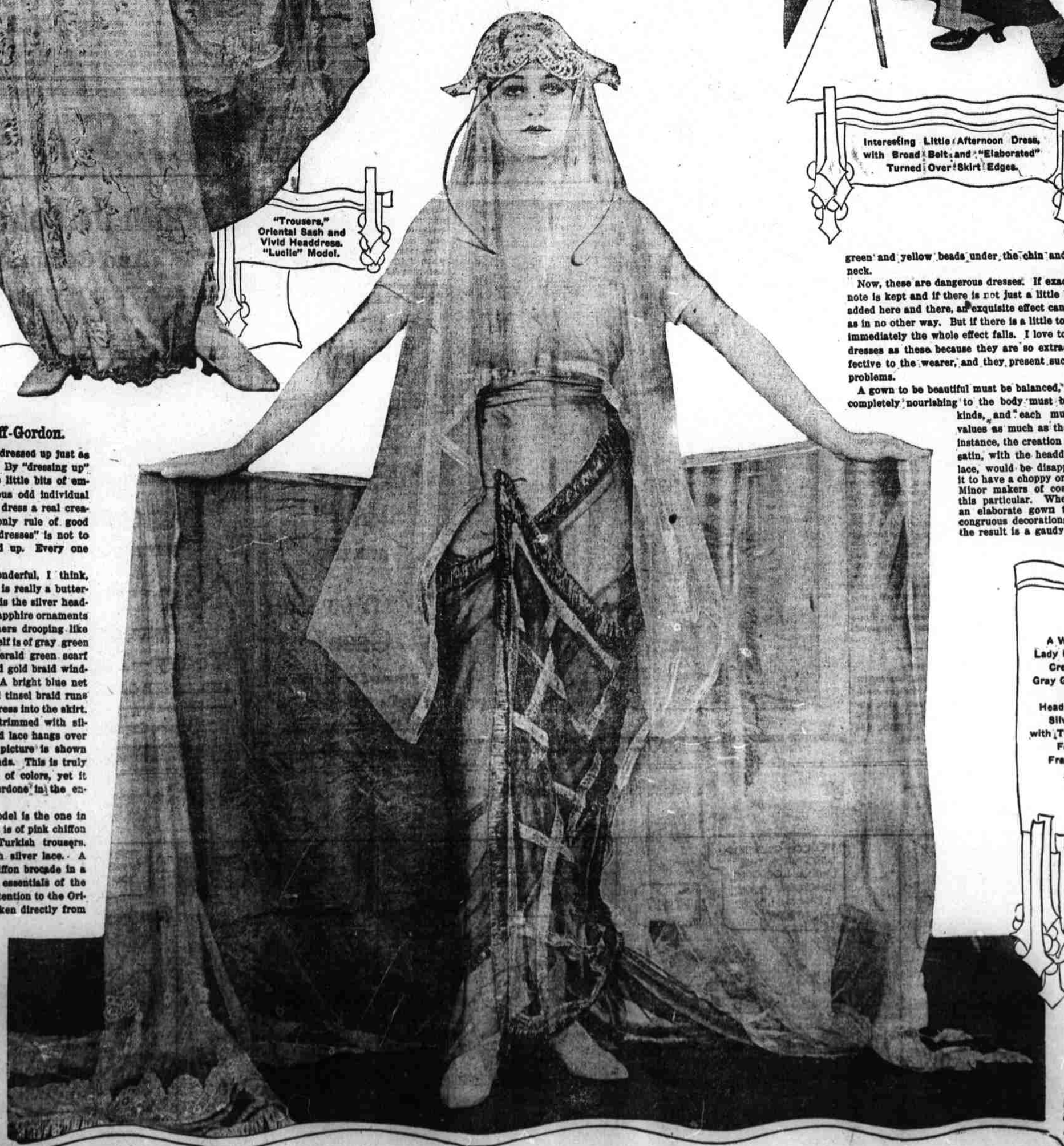
LADY DUFF-GORDON, the famous "Lucile" of London, and foremost creator of fashions in the world, writes each week the fashion article for this newspaper, presenting all that is newest and best in styles for well-dressed women.

Lady Duff-Gordon's Paris establishment brings her into close touch with that centre of fashion.

"Trousers," Oriental Sash and Vivid Headdress. "Lucile" Model.



Interesting Little Afternoon Dress, with Broad Belt and "Elaborated" Turned Over Skirt Edges.



A Wonderful Lady Duff-Gordon Creation of Gray Green Satin. The Headdress is of Silver Lace, with Two Paradise Feathers Framing the Face.

By Lady Duff-Gordon.

DRESSES can be dressed up just as a woman can. By "dressing up" one means the little bits of embroidery and the curious odd individual touches which make a dress a real creation. Of course the only rule of good taste in "dressing up dresses" is not to have them too dressed up. Every one understands that.

Here is a very wonderful, I think, "dressed up" dress. It is really a butterfly idea. The key-note is the silver headdress, with large blue sapphire ornaments and two paradise feathers drooping like antenna. The dress itself is of gray green satin, with a deep emerald green scarf trimmed with silver and gold braid winding around the dress. A bright blue net scarf touched with gold tinsel braid runs directly from the headdress into the skirt. A bright yellow scarf trimmed with silver tassels and tinselled lace hangs over the arms, and in the picture is shown suspended from the hands. This is truly a glorious combination of colors, yet it is not in any way overdone in the ensemble.

Another elaborate model is the one in the left hand corner. It is of pink chiffon metallic, with true Turkish trousers. These are covered with silver lace. A silver lace and pink chiffon brocade in a silver net finishes the essentials of the costume. I call your attention to the Oriental scarf, which is taken directly from that of a famous old chieftain.

The headdress is of richest satin brocade in all sorts of vivid colors tied around the head in the turban style, with emerald green and yellow beads under the chin and around the neck.

Now, these are dangerous dresses. If exactly the right note is kept and if there is not just a little bit too much added here and there, an exquisite effect can be produced as in no other way. But if there is a little too much, then immediately the whole effect falls. I love to design such dresses as these because they are so extraordinarily effective to the wearer, and they present such interesting problems.

A gown to be beautiful must be balanced, as food to be completely nourishing to the body must be of several kinds, and each must weigh in values as much as the other. For instance, the creation of gray green satin, with the headdress of silver lace, would be disappointing were it to have a choppy or cut-up effect. Minor makers of costumes err in this particular. When they make an elaborate gown they heap incongruous decorations upon it, and the result is a gaudy hodge podge.

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