

Ladies' Column.

LATEST LONDON AND PARIS FASHIONS.

By MISS IDA MELLER

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THERE is no abatement in the use of accordion-pleating, which is, this season, put largely to the service of skirts, blouses, and trimmings. Tailors are showing some very good skirts of fine cloth and serge, mostly in navy and black, accordion-pleated throughout, and others mounted into plain or braided hip-yokes; while for afternoon wear, at home, are accordion-pleated skirts of nuns' veiling, with hip-yokes of satin-ribbon and fagot-stitching, the ribbon being repeated, at times, at the hem of the skirt; and for evening wear skirts of accordion-pleated black voile are useful and fashionable. So, too, are the plain skirts of voile, with which more is being done than with the pleated models. Silks for blouses are all very soft and creaseless, and there are several new shades in greens and russet-reds, which are seen to advantage in taffeta and also in the soft ribbons and velvets newly brought out. Brown, in such material as taffeta, voile and chiffon, is now considered an evening shade, and many useful theatre-dresses are made in nut, russet, and golden browns. Cream is, of course, paramount among the soft silk blouses, for day and evening wear; rose, green, both for dresses and millinery, is a leading colour; and tangerines, tomato reds, and the new coque de roche shades represent the last word of fashion, and appear among ribbons, chiffons, flowers, feathers, and velvets. Flowers are as popular as pompons for autumn millinery, large roses in particular being an approved mode; while quantities of ombre ribbons in the most lovely colourings decorate hats, toques, and bonnets, and shaded plumes for millinery are a great vogue. Equally fashionable are shaded ostrich feather boas and stoles; but they are expensive, and, frankly, do not carry with them such good taste as the cream, black, or brown feather boas. Shaded marabout stoles are other vogues of the autumn, and chiffon-trimmed, glace peleries are smart little wraps and useful when warmth is not a matter of consideration.

A TWEED CYCLING COSTUME.

Cycling fashions necessarily remain simple, but some of the new costumes are very smart, notwithstanding, and are showing strappings of kid or suede on well-built semi-anorak coats. The cycling dress sketched is of brown tweed, with a border round the coat of tan-coloured suede and bands of similar material at the wrists of



the sleeves, which are of the plainest cut. The skirt seems to be strapped with suede to match. The coat has a small pocket at the left side, and a couple of straps of tweed pass over the shoulders, and are buttoned to the fronts of the coat. Tailors are making use of straps of the kind to cover little pockets inserted in the coat below the shoulders.

THE NEW INVERNESS COAT.

The Inverness cape is by no means new, but it is revived this season under conditions that render it to all appearance a novelty. It is one of the leading autumn styles, and is seen a great deal in various tweeds and cloth materials, also in water-proof makes. The Inverness coat, which is a development of the cape, is the smarter garment of the two, and presents an exceedingly graceful effect in plain and fancy cloths, lined with silk or fur. It is made long to the hem of the skirt and also in three-quarter lengths, and is taking the place of the erstwhile popular guard's coat. One of our sketches this week shows the new Inverness coat, trimmed with stitching and a velvet collar, and lined with fur. If made of waterproof material, exclusively for bad weather, it is a good plan to provide the Inverness coat or cape with any ordinary coat sleeves beneath the Inverness wing. A hood is sometimes added to the coat, and in the best models we find a convenient arrangement for raising the skirt without unfastening the coat, sits



being provided by the side of the pockets, whereby the hands may be passed through to the skirt. Either as a travelling coat or for ordinary everyday wear in cold weather, the Inverness ranks as the coat of the hour. Made double-breasted in any of the pretty new tweeds, and decorated with twin rows of fancy buttons, it is seen to advantage.

SHIRTS AND BLOUSES.

One of the most interesting departments of dress is that of dealing with shirts and blouses, for which purposes all sorts of pretty fancy flannels and delaines, cashmeres and velveteens are now brought into use. Flannel, in its present-day glorified form, is as dainty-looking as a silk, and many of the new woollen shirts are consequently quite elegant confections. The silk necktie threaded through the wide, centre box-pleat of a shirt is a favourite style, and tucks and small box-pleats are much used on shirts of all materials, while, as a rule, the neck is finished with a linen or muslin stock-collar, or pointed collar of the shirt material or of linen.

Personalities.

PRINCE EUGEN.

PRINCE Eugen of Sweden, the youngest son of King Oscar II., is a gifted painter, his landscape work being held in character and reflecting the true artist. Prince Eugen's uncle, the late King Carl XV., was a talented painter and writer, having published at least one volume of poems under his Royal initial; and another uncle, the late Duke of Dalarna, who died when yet a young man, was likewise highly gifted. The great-grandson of one of Napoleon's most famous generals, Prince Eugen also bears the name of the great Emperor. Like most Swedish princes, he attended the ancient and wide-famed university of Upsala, and whilst there he made up his mind to devote his life to art. At Upsala he received some instruction from the painter W. von Gegerfeldt, and later proceeded to Paris to study in earnest. He led to a great extent the life peculiar to the Parisian art student, and on his card he had a plain 'E. Oscarson.'

MR. VAN ALLEN.

The wealthy American, Mr J. Van Allen, who, it is announced, is to settle down permanently in England, is English in all his sympathies. He comes of an old Knickerbocker stock, and his father was a general in the U.S. army. He is said to be worth three millions sterling, and he has spent a great deal of his income in Europe. He was at Oxford in his youth, and he reproduced Wakehurst Place, Lady Downshire's old house, in facsimile when he set up housekeeping at Newport, U.S.A. He married a daughter of Mrs William Astor, and his two daughters were educated in Europe at vast expense. One of his trying experiences occurred on his return to America with them, when it was found that he had overlooked in his declaration to the Customs a score of costly dresses they had bought in Paris and London. He had to wait on the pier while 50 trunks were overhauled, and to pay 1,400 dollars in duty. During the Boer War, Mr Van Allen equipped a field hospital at a cost of £10,000, and accompanied it to the front, serving throughout Gen. Buller's Natal campaign. He was for a brief period American Minister at Rome, under President Cleveland.

LORD MORLEY.

The Earl of Morley is a man of keen perception and fine business aptitude. He is still young as statesmen go, having only celebrated his sixty-first birthday three months ago. He has been Under-Secretary for War and First Commissioner of Works, and for the past fifteen years until his illness in February Deputy-Speaker of the Upper House. Lord Morley is one of a long line of Parkers, of North Molton, whose connection with that place goes back some five centuries, and probably longer. To John Parker, many years M.P. for Devon, the barony of Boringdon was given 120 years ago, and it was to his son that a viscountcy and earldom came in the year of Waterloo. This first Earl had a rather unfortunate experience in the matter of matrimony. He married a daughter of the Earl of Westmorland in 1804, but the union was dissolved by Act of Parliament five years later, and the Countess married Sir Arthur Paget. Before the year was out the Earl took for second wife the daughter of Thomas Talbot, of Gonville, grandmother of the present peer.

LADY DUNDONALD.

The gifted wife of the spirited British soldier, now having a quieter time in England after his turbulent experiences in Canada, was Miss Winifred Hesketh, only child and heiress of Mr Robert Hesketh, of Gwyrch Castle, near Abergele in North Wales, and her marriage with Lord Dundonald—then Lord Cochrane—took place in 1878. She is a tall, handsome, dark-haired woman, with a pleasant smile and a stately manner. Her time is spent between Gwyrch Castle now her own property—and a fine residence in Portman Square. Lady Dundonald shows much interest in Welsh industries, and seldom fails to appear at the annual exhibition in London. The lovely Lady Jean Cochrane will probably make her debut next year. Lord Dundonald is not only a soldier, but a clever inventor, and he comes of a family of discoverers and scientists. The present peer has improved gun-carriages, thought out a means of storing water for troops on the march, and invented a useful article for warming the hands, called an instra. And his forebears have had the same tastes and talents. Archibald, the ninth Earl, made many chemical discoveries; and the tenth Earl, like his father, was a distinguished scientist, and invented improvements in engines, boilers and screw-propellers. The Cochranes are one of the old Scotch families, and their gift for mechanics and invention is one rarely to be found among the ancient aristocracy of these islands.

DOWAGER LADY LURGAN.

The distinguished Dowager Lady Lurgan is touring Australia with her son, the Hon. Francis Cecil Brownlow. Lady Lurgan is a sister of the Dowager Lady Beaumont, and it is noteworthy that neither Lady Beaumont nor her younger sister (who married a grandson of Sir Kildare Borrowes, Bart.) changed their initials on marriage, and more remarkable still is the fact that the youngest sister, Lady Lurgan, retained her patronymic with an addition, she being the Hon. Emily Anne Browne (daughter of John Cavendish Browne, third Lord Kilmaine) when she married Charles Brownlow, second Lord Lurgan, K.P. It is not generally known that Lord Lurgan's name is not paternally Brownlow, but Chamberlain, a certain Mr Arthur Chamberlain having adopted the surname of Brownlow on account of his father's marriage and co-heiress of Sir William Brownlow, of Douglborough.

Farm and Garden.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES.

DAILY DUTIES WITH CHICKENS.

THERE are some duties in regard to poultry-keeping that must be attended to every day, particularly feeding the chicks and grown fowls, and seeing that they are supplied with clean fresh water; also that the poultry-houses are kept clean by occasionally painting the roosts with hero-one or carbolic acid or anything that is death to vermin. In warm weather the drinking vessels should be rinsed every morning with a little ammonia and water or soda and water; also the poultry-houses should be white-washed occasionally, and the old straw in the nests should be burnt and replaced by clean fresh straw, after painting the nest-boxes with hero-one. Hens that are sitting should be looked after, and see that they are supplied with water, feed, and a dusting place; also examine them to see if they have lice on them, or mites in the nest box. Inspect the nests for broken eggs. If any are broken, wash carefully with warm water, wipe dry, and see that the hen returns to the nest without delay. Coops and brooders should be kept clean, and dusted with air slaked lime after being previously whitewashed. Sick or ailing fowls or chicks should be recognised at once, and have isolated treatment, if necessary. If they are seen sitting around looking droopy or sleepy most probably they have the lice disease. The eggs should be gathered daily, and mark the date on them. See that the young chicks are fed half a dozen times a day, and that they are safely housed when a storm threatens; also that they are secured in such way that rats nor other animals can get them at night. Keep a daily record of the number of eggs laid by each pen, as well as a record of the eggs set, the number hatched, sold, price received, fowls bought or sold, and price paid or received—in fact, keep account of all income and expenditure, as that is the right way to conduct the poultry business. The abovementioned duties are not laborious, and must be performed in order to obtain excellence, whether fowls are raised for pleasure or profit.

WATER SUPPLY OF THE FARM.

The water supply of the farm is obtained usually from wells. In some cases the source of supply is from shallow wells, and with those there comes the danger of pollution. When the farmer first builds his home the water supply from the shallow well is pure, but after the lapse of some time, as the soil near the well becomes covered with litter, and slops and other refuse are thrown out near the house, the water supply becomes contaminated more and more as each succeeding year adds to the material absorbed by the soil. Ultimately the soil is saturated, and the rain, as it falls on the surface of the ground, seeks the water level and carries with it decayed vegetable and animal matter which may be present in the soil through which the water passes. In many instances the well which furnishes the water supply of the family, and is used to wash the milk utensils, is situated near the barnyard. Under certain conditions the well may have been placed so that the drainage of the barnyard runs direct into the well. Under these circumstances it is readily recognised that the water containing these impurities may be unhealthy for two reasons—it may serve as a carrier of the germs of diseases which may be present in the decayed matter in the soil, and the water containing the products of decomposition and putrefaction cannot but have

an unwholesome effect upon the person using it. Material which, in its pure condition, can be used for food, undergoes chemical changes when exposed to the action of certain bacteria, and poisons may be produced. The germs of many diseases are widely distributed by means of water and milk supply. It is commonly known that typhoid fever often results from contaminated water and the water supply being used for washing the milk cans without boiling. The open well has also been known to become contaminated from the germs brought in the mud adhering to the boots of the persons who used the well. These germs would be deposited on the platform, and be washed down by the rain into the well. The result of the study of the wells in a community has led to the conclusion that in many cases the shallow well is responsible for much of the sickness present in the community, and experience teaches that every possible precaution should be taken to insure a pure water supply for the home.

STOPPING FOWLS EATING THEIR EGGS.

When fowls are discovered eating their eggs, take some eggshells and fill them with a paste made of cayenne pepper and mustard and place the shells together, making them look like a whole egg, and place them in the nests, replacing them as soon as they are eaten. Some people take away the drinking water, also, for a time; that seems rather harsh treatment, but it is said to be very effectual, especially if such treatment is continued for two or three days.

Science and Invention.

A NOVEL kind of handcuff has been invented for the purpose of taking the tight out of rough prisoners. They are of leather, but these wristlets are supplemented by steel loops that pass over the fingers and thumbs, forcing the hand to remain flat and thus preventing an obstreperous prisoner from gripping any weapon with his manacled hands.

MAGNETIC SIGNALLING.

M. Vital Cesar, of Brussels, describes a system of signalling in which current is sent through the rail either in one direction or the other, and affects an electro-magnetic relay fixed on the locomotive a few inches above the rail, but not touching it, and hence not making any contact. A great point is made of this. The action is purely magnetic. Signals of any kind, either lights, semaphores, or whistles, may be made in the cab, or the brakes may be put on; at least, so M. Cesar says. At present it has only been tried on a metre gauge line some 1,700m. long. It has not yet been used in actual service, but is just about to be tried on 1 kilom. of Belgian line.

HUMAN AND ANIMAL BLOOD.

At the annual congress of German anthropologists, held at Greifswald, Prof. Uhlenhuth, one of the most advanced leaders in the science, explained at great length a series of important experiments he had made with the blood of men and apes, with the object of testing whether any relationship existed between the two. He came to the conclusion that there is a distinct relationship. It is comparatively easy, Prof. Uhlenhuth says, to distinguish human blood from that of all other animals, but from that of apes it is not possible to anything like the same extent. The professor found that the blood of all families of monkeys does not show equal relationship with human blood. American families of apes show less relationship than those of Old-World species. The greatest resemblance is found in the blood of the gorilla family, the least in that of the lemurs.

THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

At the British Association, Prof. H. F. Osborn read a paper on Recent Palaeontological Discoveries in the Rocky Mountains. Prof. Osborn observed that the palaeontological explorations of the American Museum of Natural History, begun in 1900, had been planned with the object of securing a complete history of the vertebrate life of the continent. Up to 1897 only the Tertiary period had been worked for mammals; but in that year reptilian work in the Mesozoic strata was begun and divided into two sections, conducted by different parties. These two sections comprised the Jurassic and the Triassic-Cretaceous strata. In the same year, also, the remarkable Jurassic deposit, consisting chiefly of dinosaurs, and known as the Bone Cabin Quarry, was discovered. Parts of 183 animals had been taken up, some of which might represent the same individuals; and among these there were 14 giant herbivorous dinosaurs or sauropods, and six large carnivorous dinosaurs or megalosauria, besides iguanodonts, stegosaurs, crocodiles, and turtles. The chief novelty among these animals was the Ornitholestes or bird-catching dinosaur, built like compositornathus on a large scale, and belonging to Huxley's division Compositornath. The philo-phical interpretation of this fauna and that of the adjacent regions of Central Wyoming was then discussed by Prof. Osborn, who stated that it was, first, a confirmation of the late Prof. Marsh's view that three kinds of giant sauropods existed contemporaneously, differentiated in limb-structure and feeding habits just far enough to avoid direct competition; and, secondly, this supported the two principles of polyphyletic evolution and of local adaptive variation which appeared to be from palaeontological researches in every division of the vertebrates.

THE ORIGIN OF LIFE.

Prof. Albert P. Matthews, of Chicago University, says that life is essentially a chemical re-action that has been handed down from one portion of materials substance to another since it first took in the primitive ocean in some remote geological epoch. The learned scientist also believes that it is not too much to hope that this reaction may be produced artificially, in which event we shall have living matter chemically produced. Prof. Matthews ex-

plains his theory in this way: 'It is supposed that when the earth was very hot and cooling, certain compounds of carbon and nitrogen, called cyanogen compounds, were formed in large quantities and precipitated into the warm primitive sea. These compounds then entered into a reaction which resulted in the production of protoplasm, and this reaction has been handed down from one particle of protoplasm, and this reaction has been handed down from one particle of protoplasm to another from cell to cell ever since. Although originally this action took place outside of protoplasm, it is now confined to it, since the conditions on the surface of the earth no longer enable it to continue outside. In my opinion this reaction probably concerns the cyanogen compounds which are produced in the course of the chemical changes in the cell, and this action in its turn produces the complex proteins and other substances which give protoplasm its contractile powers. To make living matter, if this is true, we shall not have first to make albumin, Albumin is a result of the reaction, and not the cause; nor shall we have to make living substance, for, as has been shown, no such substance probably exists; but we shall have to duplicate a reaction in which possibly several substances are concerned. While, therefore, its artificial synthesis may be long delayed, and while unforeseen obstacles may arise, I think from recent progress we have every reason to feel encouraged and to look forward with confidence to the artificial formation of protoplasm.'

A NEW FUEL.

A new form of combustible, known as 'comon,' has been lately produced from raw peat. Of the 90 per cent. water which the peat contains, from 20 to 25 per cent. is eliminated by an electric process. A direct current is passed through the mass of the peat, contained in a suitable tank. Under the action of the current the water collects at the negative pole and flows out by openings in the side of the vessel. The process lasts about an hour and a half. The electrically-treated peat is then dried in the ordinary way and reduced to small pieces in a crusher. It is delivered to the trade in the form of balls or briquettes. The heating power of the new product is considerable. No trace of sulphur is found, and it does not smoke or leave much cinder. So far it is merely in the experimental stage, and has not been placed on the market.

THE CANALS OF MARS.

After experimenting on the cracks and fissures that appear in cylinders and spheres subjected to pressure, M. A. Baumann, an engineer of Zurich, Switzerland, has an explanation of the markings on the planet Mars, ordinarily known as 'canals.'

Odds and Ends.

NOT HER FAULT.

MRS PHADY: 'I must tell you, Jane (alias Nora, from Dublin), that I was displeased at your entertaining that policeman in the kitchen last night.'  
Jane: 'Faith, O did ax him into the parlour, ma'am, but he wouldn't go.'

A DENIAL.

Judge: 'Mr Slivers, your evidence is very difficult to follow. You shouldn't deal so much in ambiguities.'  
Mr Slivers (is horse dealer): 'Yer, Honour, I denounce the implication. I never owned a hambuguity in my natural. All my 'osses is thoroughbreds.'

BACHELOR'S BRAINS.

The following lines were indited by a cynical bachelor in a Canadian township: 'There was a young lady at Bingham, Who knew many songs and could sing 'em; But she couldn't mend hose, And she wouldn't wash clothes, Or help her old mother to wring 'e 'n.'

WATER IN THE MILK.

The milkman walked up to the front door with his usual jaunty air, and was proceeding to pour out the usual pint into the basin handed to him by the lady of the house, when he remarked: 'It looks like rain this morning.'  
'It always does,' snapped the woman, as she banged the door, and the milkman walked away in a thoughtful mood.

RECIPROCITY IN TRADE.

An old sexton who was lettering a tombstone in a graveyard had the letters partly cut, when he was interrupted by the local physician, saying: 'Why, John you have split that wrong?'  
'Have I, doctor?' he said sharply.  
'Then how should it be?'  
When he was told how to correct the blunder he looked slyly into the physician's face and said:  
'Well, well, pass it over, doctor—pass it over! I have covered up many a blot of yours, and said nothing!'

UPSET.

'You must be awfully careful, darling,' said the little girl's mother, 'the doctor says your system is all upset.'  
'Yes, it is, mamma,' replied the little girl, 'cause my foot's asleep, and people must be terrible upset when they go to sleep at the wrong end.'

QUITE ENOUGH FOR MARRY.

A little boy, when he went out to tea, and was offered anything that he thought was too much for him, was told by his mother to say, 'Half of that, please.'  
Soon afterwards, Harry was invited to a birthday party, and when, at tea-time, the hostess asked him if he would like some of the birthday cake, he, remembering what his mother had told him, said:  
'Yes, please, half of that.'