

EVENING GOWNS CATCH ELUSIVE SPRING BEAUTY

Stuff of Crocuses and April
Entangled in Newest
Creations.

BY BETSY SCHUYLER
NEA Service Writer

NEW YORK, March 21.—If you haven't spring in your bones by this time, just step out some of these first soft evenings and watch lovely ladies dine and dance in their new spring gowns!

If they don't put the feel of crocuses, soft breezes and the first arbutus into you—something is the matter. For while daytime apparel is lovely and new this spring, it is the evening gowns that achieve that elusive, tantalizingly capricious beauty that is the stuff of which spring is made.

In the first place evening fabrics have lacy sheerness for their warp of beauty and delectable color and tracery of gold and silver for their woof. They are unbelievably fairy-like. Take for instance the breath-taking loveliness of a gown Margaret Partridge wears, violet chiffon with silver lilies traced in its fabric. Its bouffant skirt takes many lights, like a cloud. With her burnished gold hair this gown makes staring imperative!

Organdie-bodied Chiffon

All-over laces, nets, a new chiffon that has the body of organdie, strips of ribbon and lace, and hand-embroidery all enhance evening gowns. I for one cannot remember any such elaborate beauty as one meets face to face of an evening now.

Black point d'esprit brings its sophisticated charm to the scene. More, Mabel Wilson has one evening gown that uses it, with plain net and black and gold lace, to a most effective end. The lace swerves round the center of the skirt, makes an off-the-shoulder yoke and then the net and point d'esprit, fagotted together, do the rest, including the fashioning of a jaunty little rear cape that falls over the arms like sleeves. Very tricky, too, I can tell you.

For spring qualities, several stunning evening gowns shown at the Junior League Fashion Show rated high with me.

Caprice and Modesty

One that Elizabeth Schroeder modeled in was exquisitely dainty—at chartreuse tulle and matching moire ribbon. It, like all evening gowns nowadays, followed no straight and narrow course but was quite capricious in the way the shirred ribbon dipped down on the left side of the bodice and up on the skirt and in the manner in which five little bows gathered on as many rows of ribbon to give a decorative emphasis.

This gown, like them all, had an irregular hemline. And it had a modesty about its rounded neck that was most becoming to the fresh, sweet character of the frock and the mannikin too.

Her slippers, incidentally, were of

FOR THAT GORGEOUS EASTER—WHAT SHALL IT BE?

Frocks, Suits, Coats, Ensembles, in Style's New Feminine Manner,
Make Milady Ponder—Here Are Some Pertinent Suggestions



Pinks and red embroider the off-white blouse and facings of a canna red ensemble.

the exact shade as the dress, little one-stray models of gleaming satin, with kid for bindings and vamp decoration.

Mary Cogswell wore another stunning gown—of black taffeta, with a most elaborate scroll border worked in crystal and gold beads clear around this circular fullness. The bodice was distinctive for its dignified simplicity—featuring a most becoming deeply-pointed decollete, both front and back. A big bow on the left hip added a capricious note.

Speaking of taffeta, though, reminds me of the sweet embroidered taffetas that appear now and again. Much more exquisite than the prints. Maud Tilton has one in lemon yellow, with orange and lavender flowers worked with gold and silver leaves, ever and anon. It has an enormous back bow with ends clear to the floor, reminiscent, certainly of Victorian days, at least.

I must say, speaking of evening gowns, at least one word about the headgear accompanying these gowns. It's quite right now to affect the little lace cap when the moon comes out but one has no thought of sleep. Mrs. Richard Stevens wore one recently, with diamond ear-drops seemingly connected with the sides of the cap. Noel Chailion has a tiara cap of soft, silver lace that emphasizes her youth perfectly.



A bustle frock in black moire with cream Duchess lace, the straw turban half-veiled.

Jersey Suits Popular

As the season advances the black and white combination becomes more popular and appears in costumes for every occasion. This is shown in some striking suits of jersey in which the color combinations are in geometric patterns.

SPRING again sounds its first-robin call. And an answering refrain comes from every feminine heart, "What shall my new Spring clothes be? Shall I have a frock outfit, a suit, a coat or an ensemble for Easter?"

This year it's a puzzling problem indeed. For now that clothes have forsaken the wartime straight and narrow path of uniformity and gone so definitely "feminine" they are startlingly and stunningly different.

The crudely modern is out, positively. The chic woman of today shudders at being sharply drawn like a brush stroke. Soft and ineffably charming and lovely are the silhouettes of this Easter—in extreme contrast to the up-and-down definiteness of a year ago.

More dignity is the outstanding quality of new street clothes. And since the Easter outfit is primarily for outside wear, this is the first quality of the costume for that all important Easter parade.

A choice is further complicated by materials. There are so many, many new printed silks, soft crepes, printed satins, crisp taffetas and moires, woolsens soft as baby's little jackets, and so on. For colors, grege, beige, black and white, navy blue, a bright new pink-red called Canna, Lido blue and all the pansy shades vie for popularity and together promise the most beautiful Easter parade in many a year.

Can't Miss It

In choosing a frock for Easter, you will look immediately at the smart bustle-frock shown today. Crisp black moire fashions it, with cream Duchess lace for the modestly rounding yoke and the sweet little cuff inserts.

A normal waistline, slightly longer length and a new appreciation of hips, make it new and charmingly feminine. Its shiny black straw braided turban has wings of straw in the rear, simulating the bustle-bow that is its style note. A little lace veil adds its feminine touch.

If you choose a spring coat and hat, consider the season's smartest, a beige Rodier kasha with Galyak fur collar dyed to match.

Feminine Curves

This coat's sleeve and fur collar curve femininely to chic. When open, the collar makes a cute back cape. When shut, a rounded collar.

The matching Baku hat has shell-lacked feathers in amber and brown tones rounded like the sleeve for chic.



Beige kasha coat with rounded sleeves and Galyak collar.



Black faille and polka-dotted tussah make for companionate chic in this ensemble.



Stunning tailoring distinguishes this checked kashine tweed with white pique gilet.

Novelty Chiffon

Cheruit is introducing for pastel colored evening gowns a new novelty chiffon which is crisp and stiff as organdie.

Fashion Is Turning From 'Sets' to More Harmony



The harmony of spring accessories: Milady here wears a Chanel necklace of triangular crystals and a bracelet of amethysts, rhinestones and black enamel set florally in silver. Of black chiffon, gold lace and tiny flowers in pastel shades is the large evening handkerchief of black chiffon she is admiring. Inset, a swirling marcasite kerchief pin of rhinestone with a jade center.

By HENRI BENDEL
For NEA Service

NEW YORK, March 21.—Spring is the season when little things hold the stage—all through the realm of nature.

Now the fashion world follows nature. The little things in a costume are even more important this spring. Accessories are, in many instances, the focal point of a costume.

This year accessories need more care in their selection than last

year. Just because clothes are becoming dressier, a woman must exercise more restraint in the indispensable extras she buys to go with them. To ornate a taste in accessories will ruin the most beautiful ensemble.

Be Sure They Harmonize

Accessories for daytime are getting away from the "sets" ideas of last summer when bag, purse, scarf, bracelets, shoes and so on all were as identical in pattern and color as possible. It is smarter now to

harmonize things rather than to have them all just alike. Of course the catch in that is to make sure everything does "harmonize."

Necklaces in rather short, single strand lengths are the vogue this minute. Crystal holds enviable eminence—Paris is featuring it in every cut and setting.

I show today a Chanel import that is lovely for evening wear—fashioned of triangular cut crystals and of a new length, just a little more than a choker.

Bracelets now grow individual. The well-dressed woman prefers a single wide bracelet to many slender ones.

Floral Pattern Bracelets

I show today one of the new bracelets. Amethysts and rhinestones are delicately set in a floral pattern in gracious silver—with black enamel traceries here and there to enhance the laciness of the ornament. Four jeweled flowers stand around the bracelet as witness to modern skill in jewelry.

For sports the newest bracelet is of leather—links of colored leather. Quite colorful and neat. And they emphasize anew the differentiation this season makes in the latest sports and ballroom apparel.

Shown in the picture today is the latest mouchoir—a huge evening handkerchief of black chiffon, gold lace and tiny flowers in pastel shades. The size is the first astonishing thing about evening handkerchiefs. They are big as a man's handkerchief, or even bigger. But for daintiness and colorful beauty they remind one of clouds lit by sunlight. They come in the loveliest shades.

A Natural Jump

To jump from handkerchiefs to kerchiefs is a natural thing. Ker-

chiefs this season repeat the geometric patterns of last year, only more subtly as to color and line. Or they come flowered, daintily, spring-like in the small flowers that bloom thereon. The plain kerchief, however, gains vogue. A tone deeper or lighter than the suit—an ombre shading of colors that catches all the tones of a dress or even a striking note of vivid color with a white frock—these are the characteristics of kerchiefs this season.

The new thing about kerchiefs is that they are not loved for themselves alone, now. Rather, a vivid kerchief is used as a setting for some exquisite pin. New kerchief pins feature crystals, turquoise, enamel, synthetic jewels and other fancies.

Today I show, gleaming against a luxurious silk scarf with all of spring's greens in its changeable color, the newest kerchief pin. It is of marcasite, in a swirling sunburst design, set with tiny rhinestones that all lead to the center which is a large bit of jade.

KERCHIEFS DESIGNED FOR ENSEMBLE EFFECT

Handkerchiefs are again seen in a variety of colors, especially in those prevailing this spring. They have been designed particularly to carry out the ensemble idea, which has taken hold of accessories. Those with three-tone borders with white centers are in big demand, for in this color scheme there is little fear of colors clashing. Others with white centers are shown with two-tone borders, using either dot or line designs.

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