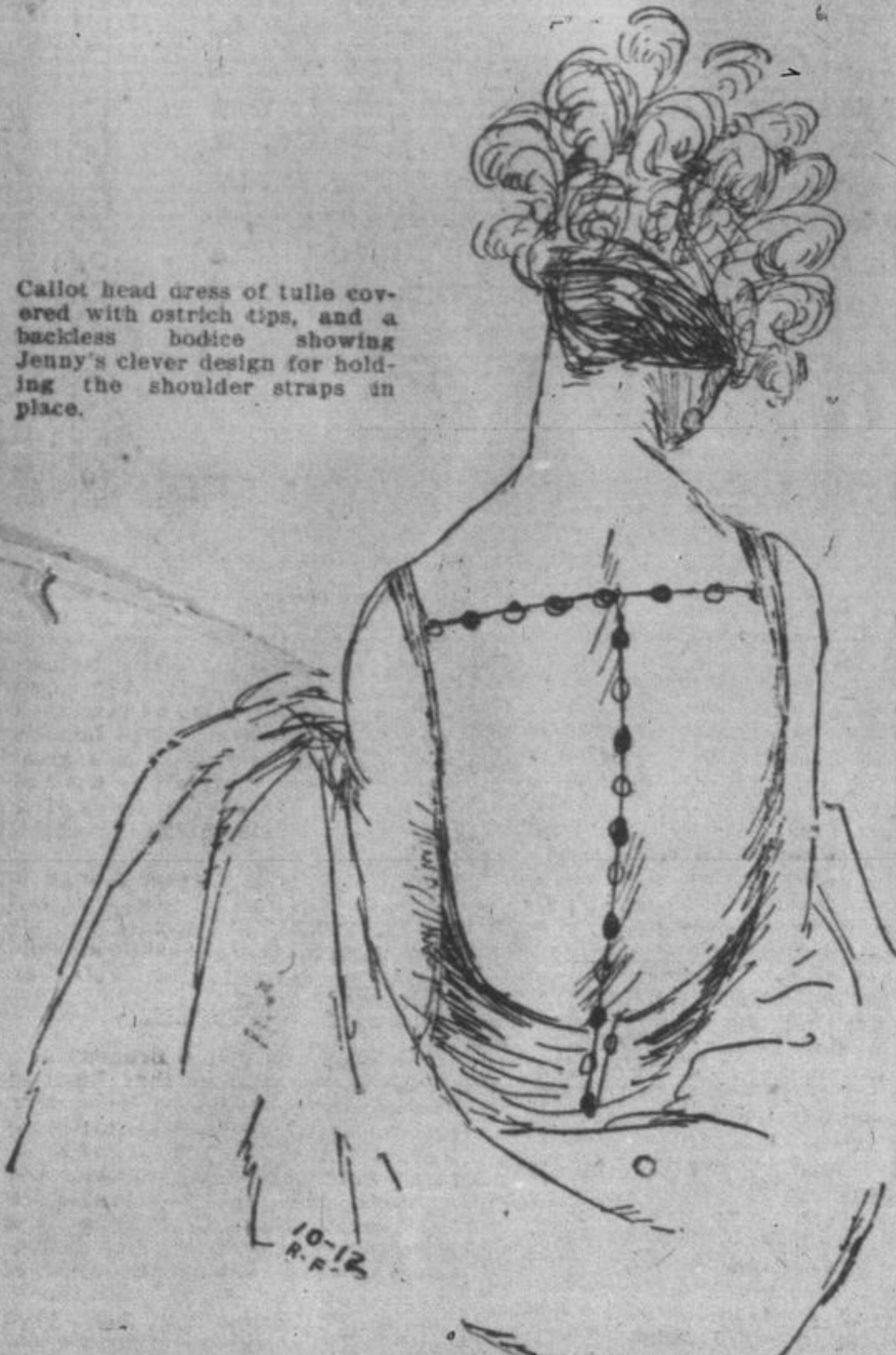


Bare Backs Are Sensational Even to Theatrical Managers as Shown in the Paris Gowns This Season



Callot head dress of tulle covered with ostrich tips, and a backless bodice showing Jenny's clever design for holding the shoulder straps in place.

hodies in front, a mere girdle at the back, and a harness of scarlet and black satin ribbon that came over the shoulder, extended down the back and wrapped once around the arms. Such fashions are only for the slim. If they were worn by the stout, a woman would appear like a queen of the harem. There is one exceptionally good idea in Jenny's new bodices for the conservative woman. It is the fragile chain of crystals that runs across the shoulders at the back and holds the bodice drapery in its place on top of the shoulder. All gowns are sleeveless and, as every woman knows, there is a struggle to keep the small shoulder straps of such evening gowns in place. If one dances, the shoulders of an evening frock are constantly falling downward over the arm, and even at dinner parties the slightest movement of the body is apt to bring down the shoulder of the décolleté gown. Few women and few dressmakers have been able to remedy this ugly trick. Jenny remedies it in one stroke by holding the two pieces together by the thin chain of jewels that stretches across the back and sinks into the flesh. One of her most frequently repeated tricks is to run a colorful strand of beads across the top of the shoulder line at the back and from the middle of the strand, right at the bone at the nape of the neck, she drops another strand of the same beads that hangs to the hem of the skirt. If one notices small tricks in fashion, the tendency to put floating ribbons somewhere in the back of a costume is everywhere observed. Lanvin uses immense separate collars of moufflon and Mongolie on her tailored suits which are tied at their lower edge, at the left shoulder with a small bow of double faced satin ribbon which has streamers that hang to the knees. Other designers will put a tiny bow in Nattier blue or citron yellow of velvet ribbon at the back of the evening

gowns start fashions they are apt to become accepted by the populace. Jean Patou, by the way, is one of the lesser known new French houses, like Charlotte and Germaine and Vivant, who cater to the exclusive European women and to whom the American buyers go for gowns which they hope will not be widely commercialized. The life of the average French model is short in the sartorial world of America. The houses clear them out in about a month, and then there is a search for something different. It is to these houses that the smart French women go for clothes that are different from the models sold in such large quantities by the famous houses to the American trade. It is said that Vivant will not make a gown for you unless she likes your face. She is entirely independent of any special person's patronage. It would seem. She is like a portrait painter or a sculptor. She says that she does not care to put clothes on certain types of women and that she likes to dress only the women who recommend themselves to her through some special charm. Jean Patou is not so difficult to please, but he caters to an exclusive trade. He never accentuates the mode. He does not depart from it in a startling manner, but he modifies and moulds it to suit the women who have the old adage in their minds not to be the first to accept the fashion nor the last to give it up.

When a house of strength announces its intention to emphasize it only depended upon a buyer's inclination as to what method should be chosen. Then came that actually wide skirt, fitted at the hips, flaring toward the ankles. It is the skirt of 1895. It is difficult to cut, it is not easy to wear. Yet it is a pronounced fashion. It may be a forerunner of what we will wear in December. Last February, you remember, the skirt with crinoline on the hips was introduced and not accepted by America. Today its silhouette prevails in all the French collections, even though modified. The same fate may be in store for the many-gored skirt. It may be a forerunner of what we will wear in December. One thing is true: A long full skirt and a long full coat combine to make the ugliest costume in the annals of fashion. No woman can adopt the suit and preserve a remnant of grace or youthfulness. The skirt fits on the hips, it has fullness at the waistband which is usually emphasized at the hips, and there are pockets or plippings or inserted bands of the material cut on the bias, to take away any perceptible curve of the hips. Even though women do not remove their coats they do not attempt to wear tightly-fitting skirts. All garments are full

the collections, especially when day gowns are shown in of blue serge. Afternoon and evening gowns are of taffeta. The Americans do not like either of these fabrics for the winter, although they are lenient to light colored taffetas for evening frocks, especially for young girls. But the evening frocks for matrons are of black, and even Lanvin attempts, with success, to create youthful frocks in black taffeta for the afternoon. She may be able to do what others cannot. The blue serge frock which is so universal here will probably be repeated in other fabrics in America. We are quite willing to accept the material when the spring comes, but it is not suitable for our cold weather and it does not go with fur. Fortunately, velours de laine is fashionable if not as popular as blue serge and Americans like it. Its pliability,



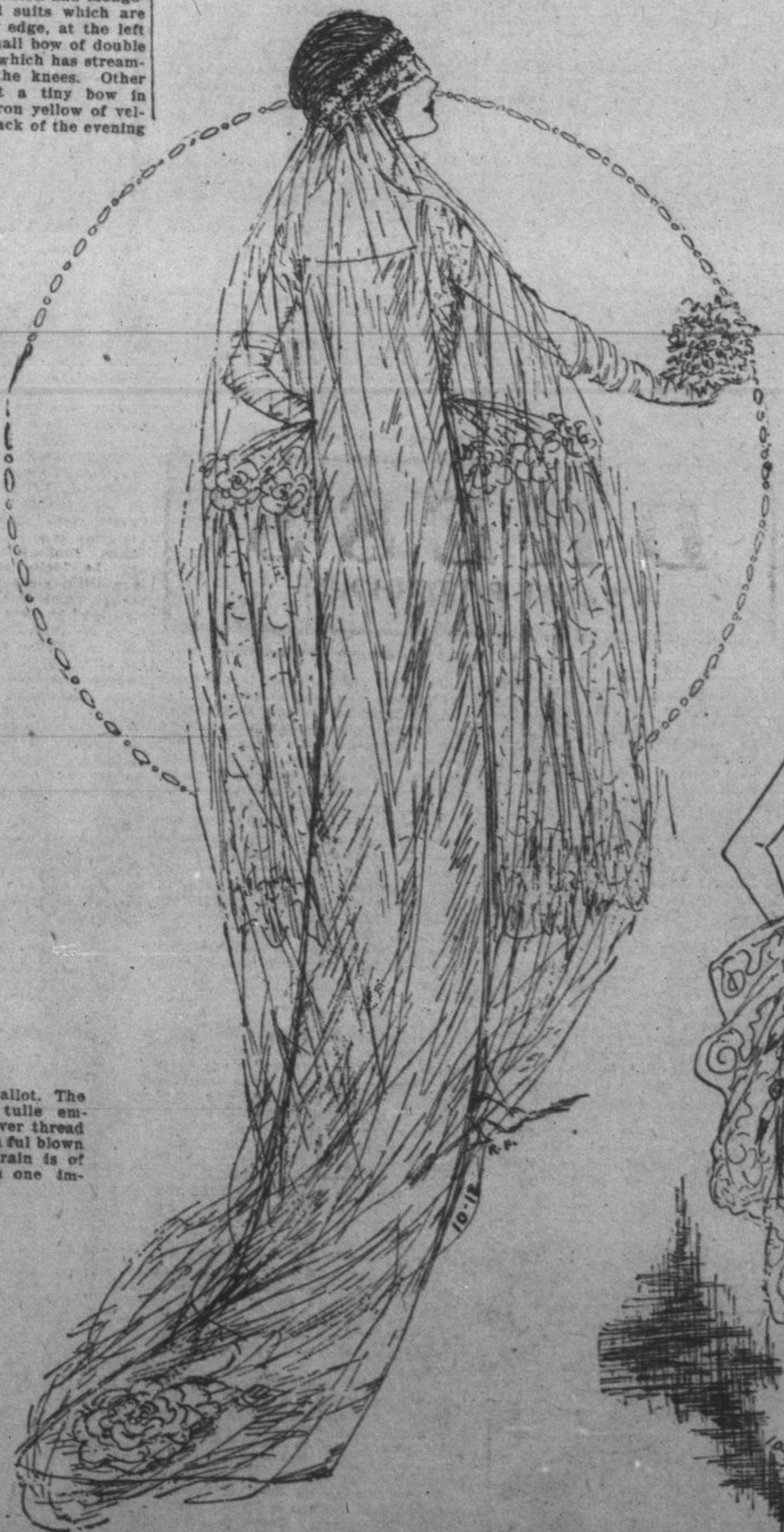
Splendid head dress by Callot. There is a twisted band of cloth of silver, with loops of pearls falling from each side and a scarlet plume rising high in front.

Skirts Are Several Inches Shorter Than the French Women Have Worn Them, and the 11-Gored Skirt Makes Its Appearance.—Width at Hem Accepted.—American Public Will Have Much to Consider.

Paris, Oct. 12.—The collection of gowns shown by houses large and small in Paris creates a feeling of alarm among the buyers. What will the American women accept? Is the hourly question. And it is really important to know what the American women will do. During the last winter we heard much of the extraordinary clothes worn by the French as a repetition of their sartorial behavior after the horrors of the Revolution. The Director period was repeated. This is an old story. Yet it comes with the force of a hammer blow between the eyes to the Americans who observe these daring costumes for the first time. It is one thing to read about them, and another to see them. The dressmakers in Paris did not hesitate at semi-nudity. They emphasized it. If the observer felt that the clothes were an idle dream of the dressmakers, that feeling was altered when the French women were seen at Deauville and Biarritz going the dressmakers a bit better. During the week of the Grand Prix at Deauville there were clothes worn by well-known women which have never been attempted since Barras was the dictator at the uxemburg palace. A woman in his time was publicly hanged on the boulevards for appearing in an unlined tulle frock and there was a lined tulle frock and there was a woman of his entourage who appeared in an opera box with no material above her waist and the flesh covered with a harness of diamonds. These clothes were almost repeated at Oeuville. That lovely spot on the Normandy coast, where the races are held in August, proved to be the trying-out field for the fashions which the Paris dressmakers have been showing to the American buyers, and the unlined tulle gown and the bodice made form a loose harness of jewels was worn without hesitating. In that fact lies the difference between the two eras after great war that should cause the psychologist to go to work. In Barras's time the women were hanged. In Poincaré's time the women met with amusement. Humanity sunk a bit lower than it

did after the horrors of the French Revolution? One could fill a chapter with the various details of the Deauville and one should write a book to go along with the other histories of the war concerning this supreme height to which extravagance, folly, costliness and gambling rose during the Grande Semaine at Deauville, the first after war was ended and peace was ratified. The money that passed over the table in the bacara rooms was greater than any amount conceived of during the regency of George IV. when he was master of Bath. The money that passed hands at the race course was enough to help the national war debt of France in considerable measure. The prizes paid by the French and other Europeans for the villas at Deauville and the rooms at the smart hotels would have restored several villages in the devastated regions of France. Of course people have a right to spend the money they own, but it gives the American a shock and recklessness prodigality at so serious a time in the life of France. If one could sum up the fashions worn at Deauville one would put it that skirts are longer and practically transparent, which is coquetry of a kind; that evening bodices are forgores because they are composed of pink or brown skin and a harness of jewels. Bare legs are frequent and they are not in the least shocking or unpleasant to see. Everyone knows that the fashions come about through a co-ordinated protest against the price of silk stockings that last a day. Copper colored legs and the morning with short jersey costumes and bows suede sandals laced with copper colored ribbon are rather artistic. The Americans never thought they would approve of bare legs, but there is a feeling of leniency toward them now that may come from familiarity, or from the idea that they are suitable on hot summer days. If women would confine the fashion for bare legs to the young and slim and to the beaches and mountains there is little to be said against it. Unfortunately, the Paris women have introduced it at dances and supper tables. The new copper colored powder, however, that bronzes the leg, the longer skirts, and the broad copper-colored satin ribbons that wind around the legs, serve to lessen any shocking effect of bareness.

Wedding gown by Callot. The hooped skirt is of tulle embroidered in fine silver thread and ornamented with full blown white roses. The train is of cloth of silver, with one immense white rose.



At the house of Jenny the evening gowns were especially like those featured at Deauville. They caused a sensation among the American women who had not been in Paris since the armistice. One evening gown of tulle had a bodice made from two pieces, one in front, one in the back. The pieces were caught together by slim chains under the arms and over the shoulders. The bib in the back missed meeting the skirt band by about 5 inches and to the beaches and mountains there is little to be said against it. Unfortunately, the Paris women have introduced it at dances and supper tables. The new copper colored powder, however, that bronzes the leg, the longer skirts, and the broad copper-colored satin ribbons that wind around the legs, serve to lessen any shocking effect of bareness.

skirts cut with several gores there is tumult and confusion in the world of trade. It is all very well for the American buyers to insist that the American women do not want these extra full skirts, but the American women want to make up their minds after they have seen everything that Paris offers. So the gored skirt goes along with the widely ruffled one by Lanvin, the rippling short one by Jenny, the godet tunic by Martini, the jabot skirt of Doucet which shows cascades of material at the side, the draped skirt of Madeleine with its soft butterfly drapery at the end of the spine, the Spanish skirt by Poiret and Worth's skirt, with its short front, long back and immense stiffened loops on the right hip. Surely this variety is enough to confuse a world of women. Yet, up until the end of August, the movement of drapery in all these various skirts was in a certain direction; the observer felt that each house was working out an individual method in a general scheme and that

Balloons gown with fullness at the hips given by flaring ruffles of lace. There is a flat, jewel embroidered apron in front and a panel train in back. Brimble tails trim both apron and skirt over the hips. The fullness need not begin exactly at the waist line, but it must make its appearance somewhere between the turn of the hip and the waist line proper. Soft materials must be used and the cutting and handling of materials must be very skilful; otherwise, a woman's figure appears awkward beyond redemption.

Will Americans Wear Serge? The astonishing part of the Paris collections is the emphasis laid upon serge and taffeta. One does not get away from these two fabrics. Day after day dozens of gowns are shown which, in other periods, were made of velvet, or rare silks, or soft divines. There is divinity—plenty of it—for the designers say they can get a great deal of it, but the bulk of its rich warmth of coloring, fits well into our days of icy wind, our gray sky and decks of snow. And in serge, in burnished copper and in deepest rose it is shown in Paris. The revival of jet is interesting and it is woven in a most alluring manner. There is a popular usage of what is called painted perillettes and Jenny and Doucet and Worth use yards of a jetted net that is shaded in coloring, beginning, say in dull gold and dropping down through rust brown to glistening black. This coloring is not as alluring as the jet that mingles waves of powder blue with black. This is usually called "Sphinx" and it is used in sumptuous gowns. No house, except Paul Poiret, neglects to show signs of jet. Fremet and Madeleine & Made-

Catarrhal Deafness and Head Noises

TELLS SAFE AND SIMPLE WAY TO TREAT AND RELIEVE AT HOME.

If you have catarrh, catarrhal deafness or head noises caused by catarrh, or if phlegm drops in your throat and has caused catarrh of the stomach or bowels you will be glad to know that these distressing symptoms may be entirely overcome in many instances by the following treatment which you can easily prepare in your own home at little cost. Secure from your druggist 1 ounce of Peppermint (Double Strength). Take of this home and add to it 1/2 pint of hot water and a little granulated sugar; stir until dissolved. Take one tablespoonful four times a day. An improvement is sometimes noticed after the first day's treatment. Breathing should become easy, while the distressing head noises, headaches, dullness, cloudy thinking, etc., should gradually disappear under the tonic action of the treatment. Loss of smell, taste, defective hearing and mucus dropping in the back of the throat are other symptoms which suggest the presence of catarrh and which may often be overcome by this efficacious treatment. It is said that nearly ninety per cent. of all ear troubles are caused by catarrh, and there must, therefore, be many people whose hearing may be restored by this simple, harmless, home treatment.

Hood's Pills

The palatable, purely vegetable cathartic; cures biliousness, constipation, all liver ills. Pleasant to take. Work every time. Etc.

leine, go back to the Vampire robe of jet, slightly wrinkling over the waist and hip line with the tulle, minus the jet, sweeping the ankles. Worth makes an evening gown of this jet in gold and white, in which the tulle comes to the instep.

Too Eloquent.

It was the young barrister's chance. The court had appointed him to defend the prisoner, who was charged with theft. And he proceeded to make the most of it. After his impassioned appeal on behalf of his poor helpless client many spectators were sobbing, while even the jurymen were furtively using their handkerchiefs. Then the prisoner bestrid himself, turning to the warder with the question: "Who's the bloke who's been talking?" "That's your counsel," replied the official gruffly. "He's been pleading for you." "Ain't he a dismal chap!" commented the prisoner.

Cleaning London's Air.

Unsuspecting Londoners would probably be very uncomfortable if they knew what the Atmosphere Pollution Research Department recently discovered about their city; that each cubic inch of air in the vicinity of London contains six million particles of dust. Pure mountain air contains only thirty thousand such particles to the inch. Gowns, too, are so plentiful that it is estimated a man putting in a ten-hour day in the city inhales some thirty-seven million microbes of all kinds. It has been put up to the Atmosphere Pollution Research Department to find a remedy.

Rewards for Big Families.

Ninety French families with nine children living will each year hereafter receive donations amounting to 5,000 francs each, a Paris despatch says. The French Academy has just received a donation for the foundation of this work from M. and Mme. Cognac. The amount of the capital is not mentioned, but to produce ninety donations of 5,000 francs annually it would at the present interest rates be at least 46,000,000 francs.

Grand Trunk Railway System Trade earnings from Oct. 21st to 21st, 1919: 1919, \$2,418,862; 1918, \$2,157,396; Increase, \$261,466.

Women silk reelers in China receive from eight to eleven cents a day.

An Energy Food for every day in the week—Grape-Nuts

the delicious and substantial ready-to-eat cereal—Unlike any other cereal.