

# Advice Bureaus Prove Boon to Brides-to-be

By OLIVE DICKASON

The bride-to-be had a notion she would like to wear black at her wedding.

Another one was practically in tears . . . she only had two days to get her trousseau, and she didn't know how she could possibly do it.

Both of these young ladies were taken in hand by bridal consultant services. The first one was persuaded that perhaps another color would be more appropriate; the second one was provided with a complete trousseau not only within the two days, but also within her budget.

Bridal consultant bureaus are comparatively new in Montreal. It was only during the last year they began to be established here; and hardly had the first one been opened than it was swamped with the rush of business, and it has been a going concern ever since.

## Established Feature

Now such a service is an established feature of large department stores.

Where once prospective brides spent days and even weeks shopping to collect their trousseaus, now they can walk in to a bridal consultant bureau and have all the work done for them. All the bride has to do is to name the sum she wants to spend for the occasion, and the general type of things she wants to get. The bureau does everything else for her.

From providing trousseaus, these services have branched out to giving advice on wedding etiquette. Mothers involved in the wedding-to-be, for instance, sometimes get excited and all etiquette flies out the window. Then it's not only a question of outfitting the bride, but also on giving advice on the arrangement of the wedding.

## Custom's Changing

Customs are gradually changing, the bureaus report. Where once every bride automatically wore white, now it's pastel shades that are often favored.

Brides this spring can still be outfitted for both wedding and honeymoon for as little as \$350, according to the bureaus. Brides are quite practical these days . . . as an example, they are inclined to cut down on the price they will pay for their wedding dress, so they can have more to spend on the every-day items in their trousseau.

A suggested \$350 trousseau allows \$45 for the wedding gown, \$12 for the veil, and \$6.50 for the white satin shoes. After that, the biggest expense is a suit and coat . . . \$40 are allowed for each of these items.

## More Expensive Trousseau

In a more expensive trousseau, say for \$900, about \$125 is allowed for the wedding dress, \$22 for the veil and \$14.50 for the satin shoes. In this category the bride-to-be

would probably spend \$85 for a suit and \$100 for a coat.

Both these trousseaus . . . whether on a limited budget or not . . . allow for such items as slacks, a sweater, and accessories.

The service provided by the bureaus has even extended to gathering the household linens for the bride-to-be. A typical set of linens for the future wife comes to about \$300 . . . and includes everything from sheets and pillow cases to fingertip towels and dust-ers.

Getting married was once a project involving a lot of hard work. Now it's mostly a matter of calling a consultant service.