

# WOMEN'S APPAREL AND WAR PERIOD

### No More Criticism Is Leveled at the Short, Narrow Skirt.

## CAPE AND CORSELETS NEW

### Short Zouave Jackets That Show Brilliant Shades, And in Conservation of Material, the Watchword in America and Paris.

New York. The conservation of wool is an established fact in France and America. It is a fact that will entirely change our conception of apparel. Silk will rule. The world has a surplus of other materials. It would seem, from statistics, and yet the foundation stone of conservation will extend throughout the fashionable clothes for the period of the war.



Jersey frock for young girl. It is of black and white silk jersey with bands of black velvet embroidered in silver. There are long, loose sleeves.

house, that the historians of the future will surely look with extraordinary interest upon the psychological change that took place in 100,000,000 people in eight months.

There are changes in a nation that do not create surprise when they are thrust upon it by an invading army to war, but the change in America is one of spirit. There is money a plenty, men by the millions, industries at full speed, and yet with wealth and resources, 100,000,000 people have turned a somersault in their attitude toward material possessions.

**Slim Little Clothes.**  
The passion for conservation wiped out of existence the fashion for flowing robes made of plentiful material. Whenever a slim silhouette has been thrust into the fashion, whenever an extremely short and narrow skirt has been offered to women, critics have have risen in their bitterness and denounced women as immodest, indecent and vain to the uttermost degree.

There is no such bickering today however. The critics of women's clothes remain silent. A man looks appraisingly at a woman gowned in a conservation costume, and nods his head in approval, as though she carried a flag.

may be able to swing it on with the bravado adopted by all those women who are in war activities or would like to be.

**The Exaggerated Waistcoat.**  
Capes, and long waistcoats that reach half way to the knees, are substitutes for coats in the absence of suits, although the really smart thing is the Eton or the bolero jacket, as far as the American fashions are concerned.

The early French clothes sent to this country before the present exhibitions in Paris showed the short jacket cut much after the manner of those worn by the French soldiers in Africa.

The Eton jacket is not for the woman with hips, however, and unless she has been able to reduce her figure to the proportions of a plucked snipe, it is wiser for her to look upon other models with more approval.

There are short coats that have straight from the shoulders to a flaring length below the waist and are tightly belted in such a manner that the waistline is casually defined.

Because of its limitations, this short jacket cannot be the ruling fashion. None know that better than the French artists, so they have sent over loose coats of silk poplin and the American designers have turned out a new cape which reaches to the hips, is slim in outline and fastens at the neck with a high rolling collar.

**The Revival of Lace.**  
Starting out with the foundation stone of the new Paris fashions, which are based on the conservation of other materials than wool, and remembering well that you must not bulge or flare or to provoke discussion as to your extravagance in the usage of fabric, then it is wise to go on to the minor adjuncts of fashion.

The revival of silk poplin is a bit of news that appeals to the majority of women. You know, this fabric makes admirable coat suits, and with the modern activity of nearly every woman in this country, there will not be such a wide demand as usual for frocks that need constant cleaning and laundering.

The late spring and summer will probably usher in a vast army of women dressed in silk poplin. Shantung, the thinnest gabardine, satin and dark toulon.

The tailored suit which is adopted by such numbers of women doing active relief work, has already set its impress upon the fashions, and it is quite probable despite the talk of the dressmakers that coat suits of silk poplin in black, beige, brown and blue will rise to unusual heights of popularity. Let us hope this may come about.

# ONE-SIDED EFFECT

### Promises to Be the Next Logical Spring Experiment.

**Fiber Silk, Similar to That Used for Sweaters, Will Be Popular for Sport Suits and Dresses.**

The use of jersey weaves or knitted fabrics in both silk and wool continues to be a dominant feature of garment and style development. For wear during the coming spring season fiber silk, much on the order of that used for sweaters, will be used in both sport suits and dresses. Several textile houses have brought this fabric out



Spring frock featuring one-sided fastening.

giving it fanciful trade names, but it is nothing more nor less than fiber silk, which every one knows is not silk at all, but which serves as an excellent imitation and substitute for silk at a much cheaper price.

The sport little spring frock shown in the sketch may be developed effectively either in wool jersey or fiber silk, or it could be made of serge or gabardine. The real feature of the frock is its side fastening arrangement, and it is interesting to note that the fancy for one-sided effects is evident in all lines of outer apparel for women.

Some of the smartest frocks have draperies or tunics that fall low at one side and are scarcely visible at the other side, and the same rule applies to the separate skirt.

Inasmuch as the hip drapery giving a bouffant silhouette has had its day, and the back flare, or bustle, is also passing after a brief lease of life, the one-sided effect is logically the next experiment. So far many satisfactory results have been achieved.

The dress shown may be trimmed with beading in self or contrasting color or merely in stitching with heavy floss. Or if some more elaborate trimming touch is required, wool embroidery may be recommended, especially if wool jersey cloth is selected for the gown.

# HIRSUITE ADORNMENT FOR ALL

### Transformation Proves Decidedly Helpful to Woman Who Have No Maid.

The balddest woman becomes beautiful, or, if her features don't permit it, at least attractive, under the magic influence of a well-made transformation, notes a fashion writer in the New York Herald. The transformations of a decade ago and today are vastly different, for modern hatdressers have so perfected this hirsute adornment that only an expert is able to detect that it is not the real thing. In other days when a woman took to a transformation to cover up a scarcity of locks she deceived no one but herself, for her artificial aid to nature was wholly apparent to curious eyes. The transformations were not well made, and no one ever mistook them for anything except just what they were.

"Today all this is changed." The modern transformation is a thing of beauty and a joy forever, a comfort and a convenience without which many a woman could not make an attractive toilette. Some folk prefer a side parting, others one in the center; others, again, object to a parting at all. The modern transformation is made to suit all tastes.

# WITH A NOSEGAY ON COLLAR

### Embroidered Flowers in Natural Coloring Affords Pleasing Springlike Touch to the New Girlish Suits.

Two advance models for misses have a novel embroidered touch which lends them a distinct springtime atmosphere. Silk dress flowers in natural coloring embellish the right side of youthful narrow shawl collars, looking as though fresh nosegays had been tucked in.

A small pink carnation with yellow tulle, which may also be worn as a dress. Black satin folds are used to define the tailored shapings of collar and cuffs whose curves, material, as well as a horizontal barlike motif, which offsets the double-breasted character. Two flaring panels, one placed above shoulder blades, give an unusual look to the Eton, for the ends of each are finished with cord fringe.

# POPULARITY OF FOULARD

There is a one-sided tunic on the narrow skirt which completes this model. The other a nobly cut navy colored tulle, has a fitted embroidered skirt, tracing of silver thread simply marking the shalons cast by the blending shades of floss.

Oblique inset panels on the narrow, belt and others of larger dimensions arranged half way between skirt section and bodice at center back and one at either side front on the skirt section help to serve as pockets, are other features that are "different."



Foulard is a popular material, but it is going to be more popular during the coming spring and summer months. This frock is made most simply, in line with war styles, but it has appeal and attraction for the buds. The apron or panel effect in front is unique. The dress is in red and white, while the front panel of white georgette has bead embroidery.

**Sleeveless Sweater.**  
The sleeveless sweater is a great success. Everybody who has knitted this type of sweater for the Red Cross, according to specifications, knows that in one guise it must fill a real want, and then there are the purely frivolous sleeveless sweaters of silk and wool, in gay colors, sometimes bordered around the neck and armholes and lower edge with a narrow band of angora. The sleeveless sweater is usually of the slip-over style, that is pulled on and off over the head.

# DEMAND FOR BLACK

### Material Favored as Economy Rather Than for Mourning.

Many Disadvantages Cited in Dead Color, Particularly That It Does Not Match Well With Khaki.

There seems to be two opinions among merchants who deal in women's dresses, and women's wear in general, about the probable demand for black. Needless to say, war times always mean an additional demand for mourning, but after the experience of England and France it is hardly likely that we will overdo the matter of wearing mourning in this country as already did at the outbreak of the war. Already there has been very definite and telling agitation against this, and it is likely that if occasion for the assuming of mourning comes, it will be doubted, but likely by American women.

But aside from black as the color of mourning, the prediction has been made persistently in some quarters that there will be an enormous demand for black clothes as a matter of economy. Women may demand black, and they may wear it. But the question is still open as to whether they are being wisely. Almost any woman who has ever wore black for mourning knows that it is not an economical color. In almost fifty fabric black requires constant brushing and constant trips to the tailor. No color looks shabby so soon as black. A black suit skirt seems to collect the dust more quickly than suits of other colors, and of course, black blouses have the disadvantage of not usually being washable. The elaborate black evening gown cut with an extreme décolletage comes in for almost universal admiration, and even debutantes yearn to wear it.

In England the fact is commented on considerably that black does not go well with khaki, and it must have been noticed by everyone in this country that since the escort par excellence is the man in khaki, our pretty girls have been wearing colors of brighter hue than ever before.

So think twice before you have much black in your wardrobe, and think three or four times before you adopt it as a matter of economy.

# KNITTING A WHOLE COSTUME

### Popularity of Outfits for Children Affords a New Departure for Grown-Ups—Requires Careful Work.

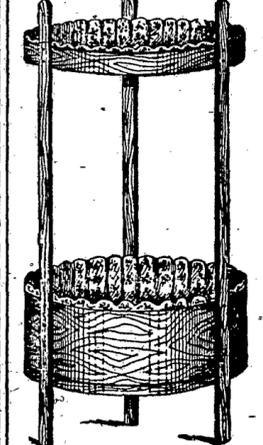
Whole costumes of knitted material have been popular for small children, but it is a new departure to offer them for grown-ups. One has a rather shaggy sweater top, ribbed to fit snug around the waist and going over the head. The ribbed collar of white ties with a knitted cord ending in knitted balls of green. The skirt has bands of green on a white worsted foundation. Of course, such a skirt must be narrow. It would be a horror of sagging lines after a few times of wearing if it were full. But it must be a nice problem in knitting to adjust it to the figure so that it shall not curve in in all the wrong places.

Our skirts are again scanty and straight, but so far they disguise rather than reveal the lines of the figure. When narrow skirts were in vogue, careless cutting and inept draping often had results which were unfortunate, to say the least. A skirt of knitted wool might easily repeat these indiscretions; so unless a woman has indulged in the mysteries of knitting and purring she had better not try to solve one for herself.

# CHEESE BOX WORK BASKET

### Convenience Handy for Holding Articles to Be Mended—Can Be Easily Made by Anyone.

Ask your grocer for a cheese box and then varnish it to bring out the grain. Also varnish the legs. The three legs can be made of most anything you think suitable, such as molding or laths which have been smoothed. They are fastened on with thin wire nails so as not to split the box. The top of the table is made of the lid of the box "deep side up" and lined with



Attractive Home-Made Work Basket

cretonne, as is the inside of the bottom basket also. Cut the cretonne the size of the bottom and then the side lining should be gathered on this, leaving a heading above the edges.

It may be used as a mending basket, the lower box holding stockings and such articles that need mending and the upper shallow box scissors, thread, thumb and such things. A small cushion can be made and hung on the side for needles and pins.

The legs of the basket should be made such a length as will make it most convenient for the user.

# FASHION'S FADS

If the little girl's dress is cut with a round neck, finish it with a plaited frill.

Checkerboard cloth is one of the fashionable effects when combined with solid black.

Coats are inclined toward military lines. They are belted in the back and rather loose in front.

# STYLISH SEMITAILED HAT

This stylish semitailed hat has a narrow rolling brim faced with French blue satin, and is topped with a tall draped crown and a huge pompon of black satin.

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