



GYPSY GIRDLE GROWS INTO A BODICE; MEDICI COLLAR ARRIVES.

The girdle is shown in this afternoon frock of blue taffeta and silk voile. The bodice is slipped over the head and ends at each hip with a streamer. The voile is embroidered in soutache. The Medici collar is of embroidered net on this gown of net, which is worn over a black satin slip. The medieval chemisette is offset by a black velvet jacket, which fastens in front with a tassel.

QUALITY, STYLE, TIMELY QUESTION

Discussion of Apparel Uppermost Topic of Women Wherever They Foregather.

CAN DISCARD CHEAP GOWNS

Better Made Garments Advocated by Some and a Battle Is On Among the Makers of Clothes—Variety Desirable.

New York.—One of the several discussions which have been thrown into the modern hour—which breeds discussions as a field does mushrooms—is whether it is better for a woman to look for quality or for style in her clothes, notes a leading fashion correspondent.

The argumentative and problematical side of the clothes is by no means a small issue in the work of winning the war. No woman has a soul so dead that she does not want to concentrate her efforts in the right direction, and to bring to all the minor phases of life, which she may have heretofore waved away with a careless gesture, the deep thought and high efficiency which the hour demands.

Once upon a time the talk of clothes turned only to fabrics, shaping, accessories and colors. This was enough to gossip about, and it gave the public and the dressmakers a lively time. But we have gone upward—or downward, whichever one wishes to call it—in a series of spirals to another stratum of air. We are intent upon the discussion of what is good or bad, what is cheap and nasty as opposed to what is cheap and worthy in woman's apparel. Intelligent women, and otherwise, find that the gauntlet of argument thrown into the arena is instantly snatched up by everyone who has a voice, and the problematical side of war-time apparel makes an enthralling discussion that puts scandal, society and love affairs in the background.

Controversy Between Quality, Style. This problem, which has been presented to every woman during the last six months, as to whether she should buy a gown which lasts and pay a big price for it, or buy one which she may discard soon, and at a much lower price, is of high interest. It is settled by the individual and yet it is important to the mass.

There is an advocate for each side in every crowd that foregathers to discuss the problem; and, more to the purpose, there are many advocates for each side in the commercial world.

The people who do exquisite work are loud in their claims that it is better to pay a high price for material and workmanship, that will last as long as economy demands, than to pay a fifth of that price for a ready-to-wear gown that will fall apart after a few months' service.

Opposing this argument, and conducting a brilliant and usually successful offensive, is another line made up of those who insist that in a day like this women prefer style to quality and workmanship; that they would rather pay, somewhere in the neighborhood of \$30 for a ready-to-wear frock that incorporates the newest fashion features and gives one a smart look, even if it has to be thrown away in a long.

It has always been the method of the woman on a small income, who wishes to dress fashionably, to care

little for quality or workmanship and spend all on style. It is for this reason that America presents the most brilliant and dashing conglomeration of young women in the world. The shops cater to this immense crowd, which prefers five cheap gowns that are smart to one admirable gown that is conservative.

It looks now as though American women are to be divided into two camps—those who put all their money into one conservative, well-built gown that must last, and those who now and then buy frocks that are chic and that incorporate the new fashion features.

Heights to Which Cheap Clothes Appear. America learned a good trick from Paris when she arranged to have the best models instantly copied in cheap materials, and sometimes slipshod workmanship, to be sold at small prices.

It is this trick over here, however, that is the despair of the high-priced dressmakers and the delight of the shops that sell cheap clothes.

The dressmakers resent their increasing optimism concerning high-priced clothes—an optimism based on the fact that the dressmaking business has not suffered since the war—on the idea that women will always need to be fitted for good gowns. The average figure can buy the cheap gown; but the fastidious woman cannot wear it because it does not fit her, and the woman who has a figure that departs from the normal, cannot even contemplate such a gown.

However, one must say this in praise of the cheap ready-to-wear frock in America: It is cut on the most exceptionally good lines that can be expected at such a price. Even the best workers of the Galeries Lafayette do not surpass, and sometimes do not equal, the American cutters, who work by the hundreds on gowns that are sold by the thousands. We must have an exceedingly good national figure. That is the comment of the foreigners who see our women in the ready-to-wear, quick-to-buy, smart-to-look-at, cheap gowns that are sold in every city on this continent.

Watch for Medici Collar. Two women have worn French gowns with high, wired, outstanding, Medici collars of lace and tulle. Don't let this fact slip your memory for an instant, if you are vitally interested in the new things that come up suddenly over the horizon and promise many followers.

The Medici collar is a symbol of the history of human nature pressed into a few short, mad years of French life. It represents what the Three Feathers of Great Britain represent. It is more than a fashion; it is the symbol of a dynasty.

Now and then, it has flickered in and out of fashion. It was taken up by other queens beside Catherine and Mary; it was worn by debutantes on stately gowns with trains a quarter of a century ago; it has been maintained in a measure in half the courts of Europe, and it may be revived this summer.

It was made of point lace, wired to its extremest points and worn with a black satin dinner gown that was guiltless of all trimming and received its high light from a string of pearls. It was also worn in a black embroidered net gown—dropped over black satin, with a curious little jacket of black velvet fastened in front, below the hip-line, with a glittering tassel.

There are one-piece frocks creeping into the fashions that show the Medici collar of double tulle, hemstitched at the ends, and there are soft voile gowns over colored taffeta that have upstaring neck ruffles of white chiffon that are daintily and carelessly held up by tassels.

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DAY OF WAISTCOAT

Paris Sketches Predict Advance of the Long Garment.

Promises to Be Dominant Feature of New Autumn Clothes Which Will Be Introduced in August.

Last January, the women in Paris wore waistcoats of fur, velvet, knitted wool and dyed homspun that reached from the collar bone to the knees. The heads of dressmaking houses, who are carefully watched wherever they go, contributed to the fashion for these accessories by placing them in their own suits.

America introduced few of them, and she did not find even the short waistcoat of last February, a success, declares a writer on fashion topics. It was worn by a few segments of smart women, fashionable and unfashionable, rich and poor, but the long waistcoat was treated as an outcast. It was not even recognized. But France persisted and the dressmakers in New York are putting it into suits and frocks for summer resorts. The prophecy runs that it will be a dominant feature of new autumn clothes.

In a large bunch of Paris photographs that have come over, this long waistcoat is repeated in many fabrics on women who are snapped as they go about their new and active life. The sketches that come over from the big designers as heralds of what will be advanced in August, show the long waistcoat also. It is made in a different color from the gown; it is used for protection or for beauty, and although it is probably taken from the reign of Louis XIV, it has none of the elegance or jauntness of its predecessor. It merely looks warm and comfortable, or gay and colorful.

It is the longest waistcoat that has ever been worn by woman. It was matched in length by those worn at the court of the Grand Monarque. Looking at it in its most essential feature, it is merely another way to straighten the figure. It, therefore, can be adopted by those to whom middle age has brought an undesired roundness.

DARK BLUE HELMET TURBAN



Charming enough would be this dainty helmet turban alone, but its designers were not satisfied, so they added the charming summer veil. The hat is dark blue, covered with a multitude of summer flowers. The same flower motif is carried out in the dark blue veil.

RIBBON FOR DRESS TRIMMING

Many Beautiful Designs Being Effectively Used; Never More Beautiful Than This Year.

Ribbon plays an important part in dress trimmings, accessories, etc., and never have they been more beautiful than they are this year. Many are interwoven with gold and silver and some are formed almost entirely of dull gold or silver tissue.

There are also ribbons of satin with pale spots in old-fashioned tints, and pale taffeta ribbons in rose, mauve and nutmeg blue, over which are sprinkled at intervals "lucky" lady birds brocaded in dull gold or silver.

Striped or checked fabric ribbons are extremely fashionable, and among the novelties are ribbons with long swayed fringe at the ends.

Various are the ways in which these ribbons are utilized for frock trimmings. They are introduced in the form of inset bands, plaited, shirred or plain, and sometimes as frillings or ruchings.

Hate Off for Hair.

Keep your hat off as much as possible. Hair cannot lie too easily or loosely for its own health, and that of the nerves and head. Anything like pressure, heat or strain about the head will injure the brain and the finest parts of the nervous system. Pulling the hair up too tightly from the back of the head and ears will cause the glands of the neck to swell. Notice what a relief it is to take all your hairpins out of the hair and let it hang loose for a few hours.

If you adopt an easy, artistic and natural hair dressing, nervousness will disappear and headaches will be unknown. It is not only beneficial to the growth of the hair, but to the health of the head. Wear it tied with a soft comb at the neck, free from pins.

USE MADE OF FOOD CARTONS

Oatmeal Containers Easily Transformed Into Attractive Scrap Baskets for the Table.

"Why in the world are you Hoovering all these oatmeal cartons? I always burn mine," said the visitor in astonishment as her friend opened a cupboard and disclosed a shelf filled with a collection of oatmeal cartons, the round kind.

"I will show you," said her friend, leading the way into the living room and taking an object from the table. "What do you think of that? I call it a table scrap basket."

"A table scrap basket!" exclaimed the visitor. "What could be more useful and what could be prettier?" "You know," explained her friend, "I always save the odd lengths of wall paper left over. There is a box full in the storeroom. One of these pieces of wall paper is of a wonderful blue, the kind with green in it, a mat tint. I took a carton, cut and fitted the blue paper to it and pasted it on. Then there was another end of wall paper left over from the dining room frieze. It was a French paper showing a riot of gaily colored birds in a jungle of leaves and flowers. From this paper a rich blue parakeet, balancing on a red stem, was cut and pasted on the darker blue background, taking care to paste it over the seam where the paper on the carton is joined together.

"Then the edges, top and bottom, were bound with furniture gumpaper, which matches the blue paper. For handles I took two large rings such as are used for curtain pulls, covered them with buttonhole stitching in black and hung them on either side of the carton, forming little drop handles. The bottom and inside of the carton were dyed a deep red, harmonizing with the touches of red in the parakeet. Other cartons were covered with a light yellow paper and mounted with brown and yellow birds with gumpaper to match and black handles.

"My table scrap baskets, I find, make useful and much-appreciated gifts. And that is why I am Hooverizing the oatmeal cartons."

SAND PILE KEEPS TOTS-BUSY

Affords One of the Greatest Amusement for Youngsters—Can Model Clay Designs.

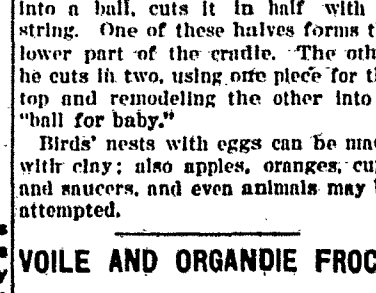
What else is there with which little children's hands can be kept more satisfactorily occupied than sand? Just turn the children loose in a pile or tub of sand, with a spoon, a pail, a cup or anything with which they can dig or shovel.

You do not like sand in the house? If you have a suitable place for it, it need not make any trouble. An old kitchen table turned upside down, with the legs cut short and put on the other side, makes a good table for sand. A piece of burlap or denim placed under the table keeps the sand from being scattered over the house.

With clay, a simple little cradle may be made. The child first rolls a piece into a ball, cuts it in half with a string. One of these halves forms the lower part of the cradle. The other he cuts in two, using one piece for the top and remodeling the other into a "ball for baby."

Birds' nests with eggs can be made with clay; also apples, oranges, cups and saucers, and even animals may be attempted.

VOILE AND ORGANDIE FROCK



Of the many varieties in summer frocks, this of voile stands out as a pleasing and attractive dress. The frilled organdie breaks the long skirt line, and is used for collars, cuffs and belt.

Revolving Tray.

The revolving breakfast tray is a comfort which American women would do well to borrow from their English cousins. It makes it possible to do

CHIC SPORT FROCK

Sleeveless Jacket May Be Separate Coat or Part of Dress.

For Summer Wear, Wool Jersey Cloth, Velveteen or Light Weight Velours, Is Suitable.

The sleeveless jacket shown in the sketch may either be a separate coat, as so many of them are, or it may be made to form part of the dress with which it is worn. If meant as a separate summer sport jacket, wool jersey cloth, velveteen or lightweight velours may be selected for it. It may be made a part of the dress, of which it is an accompaniment, by using a checked gingham or voile for the major portions of the garment and making jacket and cuffs of plain color linen or crash. As here shown, the dress is a very simple, plain affair, waist and skirt being joined by an inch-and-a-half or two-inch wide plain belt at the normal waistline.

With the addition of the sleeveless jacket, however, the garment becomes a very chic sport frock.

The little coat is cut quite plain in front, and the back is centered by a wide plain panel. The belt is set under this back panel, brought around to the front, crossed and then drawn to the back again, where it is looped to form a sort of sash. The collar arrangement of this jacket is worth observing. It really distinguishes the entire garment. It does more than this, however; it holds the jacket, of which it is a part, properly in place, and gives the neck a trig, ship-shape look that is not possible with the open type of jacket.

A review of fall fabrics divulges the fact that plaids are to be very much in evidence next season, and the frock here shown might be very well developed in plaid worsted and plain color self fabric or velveteen, as a school frock for a girl of high school or college age.

However, fall is some months distant as yet, and for present wear the materials previously suggested, voile or gingham and plain color linen or crash, would be very smart and serviceable.

Nothing Out of Fashion Now. Can anyone tell exactly what, if anything, is out of fashion at the present moment? In times gone by materials, trimmings and one thing and another were laid away as out of fashion, and from time to time various articles were brought forth from old chests that had hardly seen daylight for almost a score of years. But if there is any one thing out of the mode just now it fails to suggest itself to our memory.

Band bags, although in use for some time, are quite as good as ever, but are too expensive to ever become overpopular, and now come some of the exquisitely embroidered bags quaint and beautiful. On frocks we see quilting and tiny quilted edges. Cording and any other form of decoration known to our grandmothers has been called into service, the corners of the earth have been searched for inspiration and apparently nothing has been left which can be produced as even a revived novelty.

Cameo Effects in Cotton. Cameo effects (two shades of a given color) are very much the thing in printed dress-cotton this year. Usually the printing is in lighter tone on a darker ground, giving the cameo suggestion, but the patterns may be in scroll or stripe effect, not suggestive of cameos—as one ordinarily understands the term. The printed cotton foulards in these cameo effects are especially pleasing and will make up into cool, inexpensive frocks for warm weather wear in the street. Such a frock, with the right sort of hat and parasol is exceedingly good looking.

Rather distinctive besides utilitarian is this handy slip-on sweater. It is made of silk knit that is light enough for the hottest weather.

Gingham Silks. Because good ginghams have gone up in price, and because the cheaper ginghams are not desirable, cross bar and plain voiles are taking their places. The gingham silks, of silk and cotton, and in pattern like gingham, will do doubt become popular as the season advances.



Summer Sport Dress With Sleeveless Jacket.

TIME SHOULD BE CONSERVED

Good Way Is to Work on Schedule, Doing the Tasks of the Day by Card-System.

To do your various household tasks—whether that includes working your own vacuum cleaner, making your own war bread and tending your own baby, or simply the more complicated task of directing the servants—in any way but on a schedule—is a luxury and an extravagance, declares a student of home economics. You may like to do it without putting the work on a systematic basis. You may be too temperamental or too indolent to feel inclined to follow a schedule; but not to do so means to waste time, your own and other people's, and that is just what neither you nor anyone else has any right to do during these war days.

The housewife has her task of conserving food, supervised and directed by the food administration, and she entrusts the task of providing her with enough coal to the fuel administration. The department of labor takes it upon itself to conserve infant life and through widespread educational work to cut down infant and child mortality. Trees are conserved and wheat is conserved and tin is conserved. Doesn't it seem as if there ought to be a time conservator? Time this summer is as precious as these other things we have been conserving. Without making the best use of our time we shall not have time to roll surgical dressings of which the red cross is in such dire need. You should not tend your war garden or do any of the dozen other extra duties you have taken upon yourself to do. Really every woman must be a time conservation department unto herself. The best way to make the best use of your time is to work on a schedule and to make a wise schedule for all the people who work under your direction.

Such a schedule is easily kept if you write down each day's required tasks on a plain card. The seven cards can be fastened together and hung up in a convenient place. The cards to be turned back to the right place as the days go by as a constant reminder.

FAVORITE MONTH FOR BRIDES.

June Deemed to Hold the Place Dear to the Heart of the Wife-to-Be—Bridal Gowns.

June has many glories, but no one that rivals its favor as a bridal month. That war should give its romance an added thrill may well have lifted its flowered splendor with a new significance dear to sentiment and vital to promoters of the picture show. The bride has the center of the stage, particularly when she has a soldier beside her. His raiment is fixed by code. Her's has more latitude, yet fashion arrogantly prescribes methods for her also. Yells have their own vagaries, at the brow and in their length. Yet types are close, as every woman knows, to a prevailing ideal, as for example, in the persistent shortness of skirts no matter whether the veil be long or short. The result is to recall the quaint days of Watteau, when slippers played so pretty a part in the pictorial scheme of things. Eyes and smiles, if they be remarked, are still in fashion!

IS HANDY FOR SUMMER WEAR



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