

BEST GOWNS ARE STILL IN FAVOR

Conservation, Topic of the Hour, Mixed With Entertainment of Soldiers.

LAVISH USE OF ANGORA WOOL

Short Tunics Have Parisian Sashes—Many of the New Gowns Look as If Taken From "Chu Chin Chow."

New York.—It is impossible to avoid bitter discussion on the question of entertaining our soldiers and sailors. As this struggle progresses, writes a fashion correspondent, it may be that the entire social fabric will cease to read itself apart with personal and national arguments for and against people in and out of power, institutions for the good of the cause, and the various phases of money expenditure that have arisen in the last year.

Anyone who goes about in various sectors of society—and by that is meant the grouping of people for all purposes, not alone gayly beguiled to feel that the hate which is engendered on the battlefield has its reflection in the minds of those who are not in the struggle, except on the side-lines.

A Civil war veteran says that the plighting of women into the public arena, with its alleged bad effect on their tempers and temperaments, has nothing to do with the situation; that the Civil war engendered the same kind of personal animosities. Yet the Civil war—with all its tragedy, hate, death and sacrifice, which necessarily affected the personal lives of everyone in America more than this war has done—did not throw women together in groups of thronings.

Is it odd, therefore, in this rather malicious turn which emotions have taken during a year of war, that the question of entertaining our soldiers should be thrown into the arena of argument?

Reason for Brilliant Costumery. Now we come to the question of fashions. It is not possible to separate clothes from this peculiar and emphatic situation which has arisen through the conviction that the fighters must be entertained, going and coming.

Whatever the government has asked women to do in the way of clothes, they have done gladly, but that does not keep them from dressing well every day and night as they pass to and from one entertainment to another.

These gowns are far from expensive in the mass of colors, if individual who has money continues to spend it in going to her own dressing room and paying well for excellent cloth, good fitting and perfect finish, but the average woman, even though she have money, has begun to find out all kinds of places where smart-looking clothes

small shop where you can get some thing that looks like France for \$19.

Many of them have also quickly adopted the government's suggestion. It is not unusual to see a woman holding up the tunic or part of her skirt in the middle of Main street, as she greets a friend, saying, "Here's my 'mushy-out' gown; how goes it?" Women confidentially whisper to each other at committee meetings about the secret little Paris dressmaker who is used to the economical tricks of the French dress-makers, turning and twisting to save money—and these addresses are only exchanged as a great privilege.

All of which is exceedingly good for the nation as a mass. As for the high



A mustard gown is better than mustard gas, and the suit by Paquin in this color is a departure from the conventional coat and skirt. There is a Medici collar, a black tulle cravat and a narrow belt of the material which ties in back.

Fashioned dressmakers, they have their own clientele who will probably never leave them, as they do not vary. As they say, there are always enough women in the world who must have individual fittings, which require expert workers. So everyone is satisfied, economically and commercially.

New Clothes That Paris Sends.

Now, of one thing be very certain: that while the French do not entertain the French point, they are most excited about the Anglo-Saxon idea. The result is an influx of gowns to this country during the last few weeks, and these are sent over in order to allure those who are dancing and dining the fighters. The gowns are expensive, but they will be speedily copied by the inexpensive shops, and so Arriet, who goes out to an entertainment with ARG, will have the chance to buy for eight dollars and a half a copy of the French gown that cost \$300. That is the happiness found in treading the sartorial path in America.

It is good to get these advances from Paris. They forewarn what is to be shown to American buyers.

If they are honest forerunners of our early autumn customers, then Paris has not created a revolution in the silhouette, as was persistently rumored during the month of June. The salient points of these new clothes are slenderness, shortness of skirts, an attempt to revive the miniature of Paul Poiret fame, an insistence upon sashes arranged in army fashion, a repetition of beige, mustard and tan colorings, and the introduction of broadcloth.

Flouting panels, which have for six months dotted the entire surface of clothes in America, have been abolished, if we judge by these forerunners.

There are capes on evening gowns which are made in the most brilliant fairy-tale manner, reminiscent of the extravaganzas in the old days at the Drury Lane theater in London.

There are no high collars. The Italian décolletage is retained. The severe neck line, without a line of white, remains a part of the fashions.

Medieval Tunics Still in Fashion. There has been no disposition on the part of the French designers to lift the tunic out of its popular position in apparel. They do not insist upon it in its genuine Slavie style, but they use it as a model for much that is done in the way of over-drapery.

There are tunics that are cut to a deep point at each side and are not boxed but side pieces over a long embroidered cuirass that reaches nearly to the knees of a dark skirt.

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BLOUSES FOR ALL

Separate Outside Garment Has Recognized Advantages.

Waistcoat, Cuirass and Ornamental Blouses Are Among the Styles for Various Tastes.

There are still women who wear separate skirts and blouses without a pretense that the two belong to each other.

There are still women who wear suits with white or colored blouses that end at the waistline and are joined to the skirt under a leather belt or one of the material.

It may be that this fashion will never die out, but the impulse toward mediocrity in dress has continually acted against the division of the costume at the waistline by the joining together of two colors.

The students of dress and those who are in the higher strata of dress-making, asserts a correspondent, have observed this mediocrity for the last three years. They have preached it to women whose eyes did not see it, but sometimes the seeds of reform have fallen on stony ground.

Women of middle age who have gradually developed a thick-waisted line, are the ones who insist most upon the separate blouse which ends at the waist, and this is as it should be. They are the ones who beyond all should strive to mediate in their clothes and wear the tunic, the skirt, the blouse that reaches to the hips.

The small waist is taboo, and strict is so, women should accept the fact that the straight figure needs a straight line of clothing. They appreciate for their inartistic manner of dressing by saying that a white shirtwaist is so comfortable. But why should it be so comfortable when it is cut off at the waist than when it is allowed to hang outside the skirt?

If a jury had to decide on this question there would be no dissenting voice. The artists of the world have always pleaded that thick-waisted women wear the kind of clothes that lengthen the line from the shoulder instead of shortening it and cutting the figure in two as though it were a piece of broken sculpture that had been badly put together.

From the appearance of clothes this season it looks as though women are actually beginning to see the advantages of the separate outside blouse. It is sold by the shops; it is made by dress-makers and it is worn by women who have heretofore never allowed their thoughts to wander outside of the conventional blouse tucked in at the waistline and finished with a belt.

There are waistcoat blouses, tunic under suits which give a straight line from the collar bone down; there are cuirass blouses that stretch from shoulder to hip in an attenuated line, with long, light sleeves and roll over collars; there are ornamental separate blouses for young girls or those who have slim figures, which are cut in the shape of a peasant's blouse and lightly girdled at the waist.

FROCK FOR MANY OCCASIONS



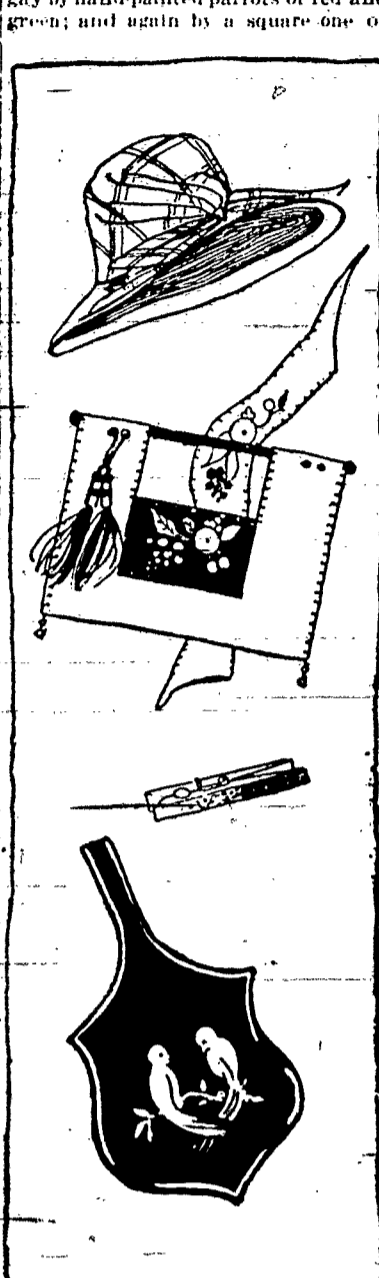
This frock of navy blue satin with carise Jersey girde and yoke, will serve many occasions. The surplus line is broken only by the girde. The graceful lines are seldom found in garments of this nature.

Silk This Winter. Word comes from France that so far as she is concerned, much silk will be shown for next winter. And as we have a big silk supply in this country, quite probably we will follow the lead of Paris and wear many frocks of this fabric.

ARTISTIC, THAT'S ALL

Artistic Hand-Bags of Leather and Felt—Reversible Hat of Manila Straw.

One shop tempts you with this artistic bag of black patent leather made gay by hand-painted parrots of red and green; and again by a square one of



Art Work That Tempts.

white brush felt buttonholed in black wool. The fruit is forged of cleverly painted wooden beads. A reversible hat is of manila straw, its crown swathed in a silken plaid scarf. To cancel this hat is rose colored. A peacock clothespin gilded and hand-painted, was designed to hold back the guestroom-curtains.

BEADS GIVE TOUCH OF LIFE

Necklaces or Pendants Add Much to Appearance—Enhance Cheerfulness and Beauty.

The most somber frock may be relieved of sadness by the addition of clever extras in the way of beaded or painted ornaments worn as necklaces or pendants. The swaying line of a brilliant string of painted beads gives life and a sanguine touch at once.

Much enthusiasm has been given the handwork of one of our successful-able school of American artist folk who has whitened beads of quaint outline and painted them in rich, warm colors. For instance, a black cord strings some pendants of long "wamp earrings" shape threaded next to quaint little mushroom shapes. The paint color scheme is rose deep blue and turquoise buff and white—hold with black. The lacquer finish is effective.

Just now, when America is learning to feel it is intensely interesting to watch the little homespun flag up to 11, instructive the need and craving for beauty—and beauty that shall not selfishly consume too much labor and material.

A simple frock that suits its wearer and serves its purpose may be made lovely with clever colored buttons, or a touch of handwork or such beads as those just described. It is the wholesome individual need for cheerfulness and beauty.

SKIRTS DROPPED TO ANKLES

New Type of Garment Said to Be Accepted With More Than Usual Enthusiasm.

The skirts of suits are both narrow and short, and the women who appeared on the street in them without leggings or high shoes created some unpleasant criticism.

But just when we are accepting with enthusiasm this continued style of short and narrow garments, notes a fashion critic, the prophets say that the real French skirts are growing longer. And the smart American designers say the same. They are making the garments slim, without using an inch of surplus material, but they are dropping them to the ankles, omitting the leggings and the high boots, and coming back to the flat-heeled pumps with broad ribbon bows across the vamp.

Three or four of the best houses emphasize these skirts, and those who are tired of the brevity of the skirts we have worn for years are accepting this new type of garment with more than the usual enthusiasm. If it had fullness it would be impossible for street usage, but its narrowness and the slight bias line at the sides, that comes from the material being pulled backward and upward, make it pleasing.

FROCK FOR STREET

Separate Skirt Outfit for Fall Is Easily Acquired.

Skirt is Abundantly Supplied With Flying Panels, Five of Them Being Used.

Have you an old navy serge dress in your home? Or have you a navy satin or taffeta skirt or drop skirt that seems to be rather out of the running at present and for which you can see no immediate place in your wardrobe?

If you have either—or, better still, both—of these garments, a very smart separate skirt for fall is an easily acquired possession, as the sketch shown herewith will indicate.

This skirt is abundantly supplied with loose or flying panels, five of them being used. The underneath skirt must be narrow, one and a half yards being a good width for such a



Panel Skirt of Serge and Taffeta or Satin.

skirt, and the panels may, if desired, be finished all around with a binding of black or navy silk braid, or they may be attached to an invisible hem used.

If desired a blouse matching either of the fabrics used in the skirt may be made to accompany this skirt, and a smart little street frock be the result.

Never have any season's style designs been so wholly friendly to the subject of alterations, and the very fact that a fabric shortage exists also contributes to this end. The tendency is to use as little wool material as possible, making up any shortage along that line by piercing out with tulle, satin, silk poplin, etc.

Wool fabrics may be even scarcer than at this time. The wise woman will from now on put a good deal of time into solving the mysteries of designing and making her own clothes. It is an excellent wartime measure, for women must continue to be well dressed. A healthy general morale is dependent upon it.

Referring again to separate skirts, fringes of all kinds used as a trimming on smart fall and winter models helps mightily to camouflage fabric economy.

FASHION NEWS NOTES

Warm-weather dress needs and comfort are assured in the lovely negligee and breakfast jackets of white dotted swiss.

White silk sport gloves in gartered styles have the cuffs lined with a pleasing color of silk. Rose, green and gold colors are particularly popular.

For autumn, black opesman is a favorite fur for trimming, especially on coats of pile fabric.

Leather mantles are being launched, some are knee length, others shorter. One model is lined with steel-colored duvetyne.

Very novel are the cotton smocks with the monogram of the wearer on the left sleeve.

There is chic in a cord drawn through the purled waistline of a sweater.

A stunning brushed vicuña sweater has an alpaca collar, knitted shawl fashion; its streaming side ends wind over the belt of plain vicuña.

Military Capes Worn. Coques on military lines developed in dark blue lined with brilliant red and bloused with gold buttons are being worn very advantageously by young women.

POPULAR CAPES AND SAILORS

Garment and Headgear Combination That Is Having Favored Call in All Sections.

This season New York has two fashions which loudly proclaim themselves: the cape in a hundred different shapes but always flowing and becoming, and the sailor hat, which may be stiff and straight as of old, or somewhat modified by just the right breadth of brim and the softness of its scarf instead of the old-fashioned stiffer ribbon band.

Everywhere we turn, says a writer in Good Housekeeping, granddaughter and grandmother alike have a cape and a sailor hat. And why not? It takes the place of a suit, and is worn over a last-year's frock, or over a winter dress remodeled to meet the needs of the summer. For the hot months it can be worn alike over the silk frock or over the cotton frock. It may be worn in town or in the country, afoot or in the motor, and it doubtless saves more wool than a jacket and skirt. It is most often of blue or beige serge and lined with satin. Sometimes it is reversible—or again, it may be of satin with the bottom edged with fringe.

In times when we are all thinking economy, the sailor hat appears as a matter of course. It is inexpensive, almost universally becoming, and is to be had now in as many shades as the rainbow boasts. There are dark models for town wear, and pink, blue and mauve types for country wear. Serail or chentille-dotted velvets are worn with them in town, and for the country they are pretty with a white-figured veil and the sleeveless sweater or jacket.

PACKING THE CLOTHES-AWAY

May Be Kept in Good Condition by Proper Folding and Use of Tissue Paper in Creases.

To fold a garment a flat, smooth surface is essential. Fasten the waistband and the placket; then lay the skirt front side down on a smooth surface, such as a table or bed. Turn the sides of the skirt toward the back.

Into the folds thus made lay sheets of tissue paper, sprinkle them into soft lines, pad and lay one below another until they form a bar or pad five to ten inches wide. Place this where the seam is to be folded over.

The folding of the skirt is to decrease its length, and should always be made toward the top. Place the pad directly in the crease where the top of the crease folds over onto the back. Make as few turns as possible in packing away clothes. Measure the folding of all garments to the length of trunk or chest into which they are to be packed.

After the skirt is laid into the trunk more tissue paper, preferably light tissue paper, should be placed in the sides and laid smoothly over the placket, folded inward, before another is packed on top of it, to prevent crushing.

Lay the coat with its back to the flat side of the table. Bring the front edges exactly together. If it is a double-breasted coat, fold it over and fasten. Stuff the sleeves with tissue paper. Lay creased pads of the tissue paper on the inside of the coat down each side. Put more padding in the busts.

CREATION OF PUSSY WILLOW



Simplicity combined with charm, best describes this adorable dress of soft colors and quaint patterns of blue and white pussy willow taffeta.

French Fads. The influence of the cape is seen in many new coats. Some have capes attached to the back and nearly all have the modified kimono sleeves. Suits, on the contrary, have still the narrow shoulders and tight sleeves. A pale gray gorette dress was seen with its double tunic edged with six-inch bands of ostrich feathers.