

FALL FROCKS AT HOME—ABROAD

America Makes a More Definite Change in Attire Than Does Paris.

SILHOUETTE TO REMAIN SAME

Long and Short Skirt Problem Continues to Be an Absorbing Topic—Writer Claims Medieval Gown is Rampant.

New York.—The great offensive in fashions, which the world has been awaiting with anxious uncertainty, did not take place.

The silhouette remains practically the same for autumn as it has been for two years. There is enough in the fashions, however, to keep the public guessing and put it on the defensive. Things are not exactly as they were, although the fundamentals remain the same.

The interesting development of the output of apparel for autumn is the fact that America makes a more definite change than does Paris. She advocates the frock with the instep-length skirt. She even lowers the hem of her tailored suits for the street.

Paris does nothing of the kind. She takes advantage of the fact that the government demands less usage of wool in clothes and cuts her skirts to such a height that it is improbable an American woman would wear them, unless she is in uniform, driving an automobile or doing other active work.

France, as was said before, put out these short skirts with the plea that they were in co-operation with the government and that they were suggested by the short skirts worn by American women in the war service abroad; but those were uniforms that the American women wore. The French mind may not have grasped that we're not all in uniform over here and that those who do wear the regulation service costume have many other clothes in their wardrobe to which they resort as soon as their war service hours are over.

Medievalism Still Rampant.

We have worn atrociously short skirts—and even in the most polite circles where one expected conservatism, there have been unduly scant clothes worn on the plea that they were comfortable. One cared very little about it when the wearers were flappers, as the English put it, but when they were women with gray hair whose figures had matured curves and whose faces the lines that grandmothers often get, these ten and twelve-inch skirts were more than grotesque; they were in bad taste.

The first delightful conviction that comes to the mind of the woman looking for autumn clothes this month is the unchanged silhouette. She will let the long and the short skirt problem fall for a while, although in doing this, she will make a mistake, for if the entire world wears its skirts long by Thanksgiving the women who sit in outer darkness will wail and



A Peirrot top coat of beige-colored velours which has the revived barrel outline. It is trimmed with wide bands of Yukon seal and fastened with immense buttons of the fur.

wash their teeth. They can put a hem on any skirt. It is true, and this may be a compromise between an old and a new fashion which will of necessity be adopted over the land.

It is, however, the continuance of the straight line that pleases women. Here and there it is broken into bits by clever designers who wish to insist

upon what is called the tonneau silhouette or the draped skirt, but these are details.

The fact of main importance is that, even with the tonneau skirt or one arranged according to the tight, pullback drapery of more than three decades ago, the waistline is big, the ankle line is slim, and the pencil outline from head to heels remains.

It is these draped skirts which the Americans put out in June and wore in August that are still very much the thing. They have no bustle effect, and their narrowness at the hem is comfortably obliterated by an inset, fanshaped plaiting at the back which gives the feet entire freedom of movement.

Yet, considering these new fashions and realizing that they are possible winners in the race for a settled fashion by Thanksgiving, the absorbing fact remains that the medieval gown is rampant.

The long chemise tunic is not as smart as the chemise frock. In truth,



An afternoon frock of black and gray satin, in which the bodice and underskirt are of black and the overskirt is in strips of gray and black caught up over the girle at one side. It is trimmed with Russian squirrel.

there are many houses that will not handle the long tunic at all, and yet they lay great stress upon the long coat, which has exactly the same effect.

The short tunic, however, with its medieval waistline, if one may call so slight an indentation of the surface by the name of waistline, is exceedingly good. It is shown on a great majority of American and French models. This tunic might be called the foundation stone of autumn costumery, for its lines are used for a jacket to a plaid skirt, a cuirass blouse to be worn with or without a coat, and a fur jacket to be worn with separate skirts or one-piece frocks. It hangs limply down the figure to a circular line halfway between knees and hips. Its hem is irregular, as all hems are, even on many of the new sleeves. But this is true of it, and it is a significant fact, that no matter how it is made, or of what material, it carries with it an exceedingly narrow skirt. We have never worn just such a skirt as we will wear this autumn and it is at its best under this short, medieval tunic.

Certain Debatable Fashions.
If a woman bases her autumn purchasing on these fundamental facts of costumery, she may not go far wrong, for by this time, she knows what the good materials are, as well as the proper combinations of peltry and various fabrics; but she may not be aware of the fatal facility that certain fashions have shown for overpopularity. She may want to avoid them for that reason, or she may want to adopt them. It all depends upon her viewpoint and attitude of mind toward popularity as it is expressed in any form.

There are few shop windows that do not display one or both, and the price ranges from \$10 to \$100 for the garment. When fringe first came into being, it was heralded by all of us as a new touch, and a good one; but those who have been compelled to observe the new incoming fashions day after day and hour after hour, have found their eyes closing involuntarily at the sight of a gown with fringe.

The same is true of the narrow, accordion-plaited skirt. It is strange that this fashion did not burst into full bloom when it was advanced last February. A New York designer put out many suits with this skirt which clung to the figure as though we were back in the days of Alexandria.

The truth is that accordion-plaited, transparent skirts are shown without a lining, and a woman must work out her own salvation if she is to wear one. And the best part of it is that they are exceedingly graceful when properly arranged over a thin, supple, light lining of satin.

However, if you wish to be out of the procession of popularity, pass them by.

FOR YOUNG GIRLS

Miniature Replicas of Frock for Women Solves Problem.

Dress That is Charming for Social Functions, or May Be Used for School Wear.

Dressing the girl of "awkward age" is a task that every woman who is the mother of a daughter of eleven to fourteen or fifteen years faces each season, and style designers have never been able to quite eliminate that problem, do what they would to fashion garments that would transform the awkward duckling into a graceful swan. The clever little dresses shown this season that are miniature replicas of those designed for women aid very materially. Their straight lines serve to conceal the ungainly angles of the girl's growing figure, and they are not shapeless or baggy.

This tendency to use the same style designs laid out for the growing-up family is not chargeable to any desire on the part of either the designers of the garments or the mothers of the young girls to dress them in apparel that is old for them, but instead the extreme simplicity that characterizes all of the season's best garments makes them adaptable alike to the needs of young or old.

The little frock shown in the sketch, suitable for a girl of twelve or fourteen years, may combine satin or silk in any preferred shade and all-over lace of embroidered net, or it may combine the pale-color material with printed georgette or chiffon. Using these rich materials, the dress would be charming for informal evening wear, or for the matinee. If desired,



Smart Frock for Young Girl.

the design might be used for a serviceable school frock, using plain-color wool fabric or velveteen with a plaid serge or taffeta.

The wide sleeves are pretty, and unquestionably comfortable. School frocks are the order of the day at present, and a clever little school dress that will prove decidedly serviceable shows a skirt of plaid worsted, worn with a tailored blouse of heavy white linen or fine white plique, topped by a little hip-length loose jacket of navy serge.

SOME CONTRASTS IN HOSIERY

Bars Down on Colors With Variety of Slippers—Dog Collars Again—Passing of Gloves.

We shall doubtless see many curious effects in footwear this season. One is permitted to wear the silver slippers with any colored stockings—even black—or again any light-colored stocking is permitted with quaint black satin slippers set off with a silver or rhinestone buckle, says a fashion writer.

Still another fancy for evening wear is the dog collar so long associated with dowagers and stately old ladies. As it appears just now in little bands of small flowers such as tiny forget-me-nots, wee rose blossoms and violets, these little "ancies" are quaint, becoming and distinctive. Older women of course prefer the bands of jet or pearl so tightly clasping throats and so well suited to the simply made handsome black dinner gowns with their strings of beads and panels of jet.

None of us have regretted the passing of the glove. It is whispered that they will not be generally worn for evening occasions until after the war and indeed for the street, except in the so-called wool chamolis. Of this one cannot speak with finality, but it seems rather in line with the desire to conserve leather and therefore may be added to the patriotic things we do

HOW TO MEET MIDDLE AGE

Imperative That One Should Keep Up With the Progression of Human Thought.

Margaret Deland gives some useful advice on how to meet middle age in such a manner as to insure future happiness. Among other things, she says: "To hold off to our appreciation of nature, we must spur our dull and lagging memory of beauty; to keep our appreciation of human nature, we must refuse to be laid on the shelf; we must keep up with the procession of human thought. Only so can we see the sweat, the tears and smiles of our fellow-creatures."

"These are the two tasks of middle age; if we perform them worthily our souls will never grow old. And, plainly, it is 'up to us' as these slangy youngsters of ours express it—it is up to us to keep young; to make sure that our inner vision is open to beauty; and to the joy and sorrow, the singular and glory of our fellows. If we do this, the 'compensation' is immediate."

"So, what difference does it make if the body is rheumatic and near-sighted—and a little deaf when it comes to the song sparrows; what do such things matter, if the eyes of the soul still see that crater mirroring the sky, if the ears of the spirit hear the bird's note in dawn and dew?"

"Nor does it matter that the body declines a game of tennis and sludgers at a plunge into the surf when the thermometer registers only 55 degrees—if the body's tenant is able to say to the young people, 'Go ahead! Have a good time! But take my word for it...'

"The best is yet to be!"—Woman's Home Companion.

ADAPTED TO MODERN NEEDS

Seeming Proof That Feet of Women Have Developed With Enlargement of Their Work.

The different sizes chosen for the standard boots for women did not apparently include size one, which raises an interesting point, remarks the Manchester (Eng.) Guardian. Some little time ago an old curiosity shop in a country town showed in its window a woman's shoe of ancient date. It was made of a gray-blue broadened silk, with a large square-cut tongue and fastened with a buckle. The heel was very high, made of wood and covered with red-brown leather. It was a beautiful shoe, and might have belonged to a lady of Marie Antoinette's court, or even have trodden dances in the time of our Merry Monarch. But it was so extraordinarily small that 900 women would have failed to get it on.

The thousandth happened to see it, was fascinated by its appearance, and asked if she might try it on. It fitted exactly.

Was the normal size foot of that age the abnormal one of this? One wonders. And have women's hands, feet and wrists developed to suit the work which nowadays they have to do?

Attractive Tiled Roofs.

One of the most romantic touches of old Spain and Mexico is transferred to southern California, through the medium of its tile roofs on the better class of domestic work. The work left by the old Franciscan priests in their missions throughout southern California and mostly done by the Indians, who were good potterers and who became expert under the direction of the monks, is the source of this new departure. It is claimed that the variations in the tile, making it possible for them to fit together, was done over the calf of an Indian's leg, the wet clay being molded by that method and then laid aside to dry. The character of these old tiles consists not only in the rich red and reddish-brown tones in the clay or the texture, but from the irregular, many-sized and shaped pieces going into the roof.—Dwight James Baum in Architecture.

Value of Thunderstorm.

A thunderstorm is one of the best of physicians. In fact it is worth a whole army of doctors working day and night. What they can only assure it can cure, clear out, absolutely abolish.

Lightning makes the atmosphere fresh. It is the cleansing fire of heaven. Where it passes no germ can live. But an even greater cleanser, for it leaves no nook or corner untouched, unwashed, unflushed, is the torrential rain which almost invariably accompanies a thunderstorm. Think of billions of tons of water passing through the atmosphere, carrying down with it thousands of tons of solid matter in the shape of smoke and ashes, and effluvia, and germs untold and swilling all these things from street and alley and court and roof. Why, no spring cleaning could effect in a century what a thunder shower does in ten minutes.

To Collect Old Scotch Maps.

The Royal Scottish Geographical society has undertaken the formation of a national collection of old maps of Scotland and has issued an appeal for contributions of both maps and money. It is hoped to secure as nearly as possible a complete collection of atlases, charts, county maps, district maps, road books, town plans, manuscript maps, etc., issued prior to the time of the Ordnance survey, about 1800. The earliest satisfactory maps of Scotland date from 1504.—Scientific American.

The Name of Republic.

The name of Republic is inscribed upon the most imperishable monuments, and it is probable that it will continue to be associated, as it has been in the past ages, with whatever is heroic in character, sublime in genius, and eloquent and brilliant in the cultivation of arts and letters. What kind has ever been visited with the influence of Liberty that did not flourish like the spring? What people has ever worshiped at her altars without kindling with a loftier spirit and putting forth more noble energies? Where has she ever acted that her deeds have not been heroic? Where has she ever spoken that her eloquence has not been triumphant and sublime? Is it nothing, then, to be free? How many nations in the whole annals of human kind have proved themselves worthy of being so!—Hugh Legare.

Meaning of Allou.

Allou, an industrial town on the upper reaches of the Forth, Scotland, is said to have received its name in a quaint and original fashion. The story goes that at the first meeting of the town council, after some fruitless endeavors at choosing a name, it was decided that it should be taken from the first words uttered by any one of the members present. An embarrassed silence followed and continued for some considerable time, until, at last, one fidgety councillor felt that he could stand it no longer, and left his chair with the remark, "All away! So from his pronunciation the town was christened Allou, which is not only melodious but appropriate, for, on good authority, the meaning of Allou is "The way to the sea."

Keep Doing Your Work.

"No, I wasn't discouraged. 'Wouldn't have been any use; I had to keep right on, anyway,' simply answered a plain, practical girl to an inquiry—as to the way she had 'wound through a hard time in her life.' 'When you just have to do things, you don't stop to think whether you have courage to do them or not, you go ahead because there is nothing else to do. I suppose the folks that get discouraged are the ones who have a chance to stop and study themselves to see how they are feeling. When something has to be done, and you have to do it, you're not watching your courage, you're watching your chance.'—Pennsylvania-Grit.

Javanese Fond of Theater.

Java is an island doubly reminiscent to the occidental mind of coffee and of brown, scantily-clad natives. These are memories of the Java of our school books. The books rarely get far enough away from the business, and tend to elaborate on the theaters of Java, which, the natives can tell you, are far more interesting than coffee plantations. The Javanese so enjoy the wandering theaters of their land that they will walk miles to see one of their epics or folk tales produced either by puppets or by real players. Wherever the manager sets up his stage properties, there is the jabbering Javanese crowd, eager for evening and the prospective treat.

Iris and Orange Water.

Did you ever try an iris water bath, or hear of such a thing? They are quite regular occurrences in Japan at certain times of the year, both in the homes of people and in their public bathhouses. Iris water bath day occurs May 8. When the iris is placed in warm water it gives off a volatile oil which has a pleasant odor, so it is said. On this one day of the year these baths are furnished to all frequenters of the public bathhouses and are popular. During the winter season the inhabitants of the flowery kingdom enjoy another famous bathing day. Orange-flower water is then used and enjoyed.

Norsemen's Visit to Archangel.

To an English king, Alfred the Great, we owe the best description of the earliest visit paid to Archangel by the Norsemen. In 1568 an English traveler, Chancellor, laid the foundations of its commercial prosperity, and British crews, ever since Chancellor's day, have called at Archangel from May till October, when the port is ice-free, for the timber, flax, linseed, oats and skins which the place exports. Daylight there is reduced in midwinter to the miserable ration of three hours.

Truth About Mathematics.

The value of mathematics in developing the mind has been strongly attacked and vigorously defended. The opponents of mathematics say that the science is a dry husk of a thing, chilling the warmth and imagination of the student. The truth seems to be that mathematics is a dry husk of a thing only to those who make it so, and is as much a subject for inspiration and enthusiasm as poetry itself.

In Dreams.

"Seems to me," said Mammy Chlow, "dat sometimes you'd rather sleep dan eat." "Speck I would," answered Pikkalinsky Jim. "Cause when I's asleep I's able to dream about fried chicken an' sparrows an' sweet potatoes an' watermelon—an' I ain't seen no such dinner as dat in a long time."

A Man in the Making.

Window Card—"When completed Blank will occupy this store." Waiting for his finish in order to begin.—Boston Transcript.

WIGS ONCE THOUGHT SINFUL

Puritans Held That Men Had No Right to Interfere With Dispositions of Providence.

Having just heard that Joshua Willard had cut off his hair (a very full head of hair) and put on a Wig, I went to him this morning. Told his Mother what I came about, and she called him. I enquired of him what Extremity had forced him to put off his own hair, and put on a Wig? He answered, none at all. But said that his hair was straight, and that it parted behind. Seem'd to argue that men might as well shave their hair off their heads, as off their faces. I answered, . . . God seems to have ordained our Hair as a Test to see whether we can bring our minds to be contented at his finding; or whether we would be our own Carvers, Lords, and come no more to him. . . . Pray'd him to read the Tenth Chapter of the Third Book of Colvin's Institutions. . . . Told him that it was condemned by a Meeting of Ministers at Northampton in Mr. Stoddard's house when the said Joshua was there. . . . He seem'd to say would leave off his Wig when his hair was grown. I spoke to his father of it a day or two after; he thanked me that had discouraged his Son, and told me that when his hair was grown to cover his ears he promised to leave off his Wig. If he had known of it, would have forbidden him. His Mother heard him talk of it; but was afraid positively to forbid him lest he should do it, and so be more faulty.—From Judge Sewall's Diary (quoted in "The Heart of the Puritans").

DENIED EQUALITY OF SEXES

Men in 1813 Had Decided Views as to Women's Intellect and Her Sphere of Duty.

There lies on the desk a book published and sold by Moses Thomas, Philadelphia, bearing the date of 1813, which makes it one hundred and five years old. There are many strange things in that book, which contains "Selections from Foreign Reviews and Magazines," all of which is claimed to be "the best thought of the ablest men of the age." There is an essay attacking a French author who was claiming an equality of intellect of the two sexes. The reviewer remarks: "Upon the whole, we do not think that a little learning is always a dangerous thing in a lady, so long as it has reference to her condition of life and the sphere of her duties."

That is as far as the world had got at that time in the education of women. About seventy years afterward, when a woman became senior wrangler at Oxford, which is the highest honor in mathematics, there began a change of opinion concerning the quality of woman's intellect.

It was maintained in the earlier period by these "ablest men of the age" that the "female intellect" was entirely inferior to that of men, and that her physical structure made it impossible for her to comprehend the great questions, such as that of war. Since then a woman has written the greatest war hymn of the world.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Nerve and Eye Strain.

Many nervous as well as other diseases are caused by incorrect illumination. The eye is a subject of prime consideration in connection with our health and happiness. Eye fatigue spoils the disposition; as that is one of the conditions given for inefficient work, we find here again a reduction in efficiency and a cause for more loss of the workman's time. The first loss was mechanical, the second is physical; both, when reduced to a dollar-and-cents basis, show a large percentage over the cost of lighting that would be required to eliminate them. As judgment is dependent upon perception, and perception upon the light, then the laborer, to be efficient, must be able to see fine details and small objects at close range with sharpness and distinction, to distinguish objects at a distance with accuracy, and to have clear perception of all objects in the intermediate space.

Famous Forth Bridge.

Sir John Fowler and Sir Benjamin Baker, both Englishmen, were the engineers who designed the great Forth bridge in Scotland, and the building was done by several large firms of steel structural works, under their supervision. The outside length of the bridge is 8,006 feet, the central cantilever occupies 1,620 feet, and the two side cantilevers 1,514 feet each. The roadway of the bridge at high water is 150 feet. The bridge was 17 years in building and was opened in March, 1900. The Forth bridge is much narrower than the Brooklyn bridge, but it exceeds it 25 feet in span and is considerably longer in its overall length.

Great Son of Wheat.

A sea of wheat replacing a sea of water, 20,000 acres in one tract bringing forth the cereal of which Uncle Sam and his allies in the world were in such great need, is a transformation accomplished on what was overgrown land near Sacramento. The huge tract formerly covered with the flood waters of the Sacramento and the American Rivers lies in a fertile basin of some sixty odd thousand acres, most of which has been reclaimed and turned to agriculture through the efforts of the federal and state government, at a cost of millions of dollars.