

SUITS FOR WEAR ON STORMY DAYS

Leather, Waterproof Cloth, Rubberized Material, Among the Favorites.

RUBBER-SOLED ARMY BOOTS

Burdensome Footgear Is Displaced—Sou'wester Caps That Fishermen Wear, Some of the Innovations for Rainy Weather.

New York.—Women should take the rainy day seriously. They should not give up for it; they should prepare for it, advises a prominent fashion writer. The "shaving up" process may sound wise to philosophers, and it may appeal to financiers when translated in terms of coin; but when it applies to apparel, the philosophy and the practice are all wrong.

Can any woman answer the question as to why she should look her worst on a day when she needs to look her best? Why does she feel that every occasion in life requires a certain kind of costume, except a day of bad weather? Thinking along the right track would make one confident that a special costume for a rainy day is as necessary as one for a dinner party. The average woman, in fact, the vast majority of women, will tell you that they wear out their old clothes when the skies are gray, the snow flies, and the rain soaks the atmosphere and floods the streets.

There are individuals who achieve in life the distinction of wearing old clothes as well as they do new ones; of investing any costume with a certain chic. But these are individuals, rare types among women who are envied by all the others and who are enabled, through this personal achievement, to be economical if they so desire. They are a class apart, they are not models for other women. No one can imitate them. An extraordinary distinction in dress is a gift, as Harry Lauder says, and not a habit.

Now, cutting out these women who may do anything they please in the realm of dress, there is a world of women to be guided, counseled and chided in the kind of clothes they save up for bad weather. If clothes cannot be worn in the sunshine, it is obvious that they are unbecoming, ungraceful, out of style. They must have serious defects, or they would continue in harness. Hung in the dark corners of the closet, and taken out only for the dark hours of the day, they cannot be expected to glorify or enhance a woman's appearance. Yet, one finds almost invariably that these are the clothes which dot the streets on rainy days; that appear in the shops, and that do duty at luncheon.

And what is the result? A woman dresses herself in all the things that she dislikes and has discarded, goes abroad under a gray sky, and finds herself accepting an invitation to lunch or dropping in for an afternoon tea when the sun is shining, the streets are dry, and she looks like the symbol of an old clothes shop.

War Brought in Leather. Although the military touches in women's costumery have not been startling or aggressive, outside of the regulation uniforms worn by war workers, there has been an introduction of other fabrics than those worn in peace. Leather, for instance, women had nothing whatever to do with this fabric, except for shoes and hand bags, until the constant usage of it by soldiers on the streets of cities gave rise to its introduction for women's clothes.

The British "warm," the well-known coat invented by the nation that has

given to the world the best uniform produced by the war, is a garment that was taken up by women. Its usage suggested coats that were modified editions of it.

Then leather skirts were taken up for sports last year, and they have been retained for rough weather in large cities. Leather has been worn in tan and in black and there are coats of it made of that shiny kind which one once saw on policemen.

Rubberized cloth was brought in by the war. Khaki-colored covert cloth and gabardine were returned to fashion through the war. Sheepskin collars and cuffs came about through its use as a lining for British coats. Extra high leather boots have been emphasized since America went into the war, and now leather caps and hats with brims like the New England fishermen wear have come into fashion.

France brought out a host of new umbrellas since the war, because the French women were compelled to walk. The majority of Parisiennes put the bad weather down to the war, and there were Americans who thought along the same channel; but the probable truth is that the French woman, even of the poorest class, is not used to walking the streets in fair or foul weather, and when the war compelled



Coat suit of rainproof dark-blue cloth braided with black shoelaces. Cap of varnished blue straw. High leather boots reach up to the short skirt, and the high collar is of seal-skin.

her to do this, through the lack of taxis and money, she found leather, oilskin, and umbrella necessary.

Entire Leather Suit. One woman turns herself out on the street whenever her best clothes are inadvisable, in a beige-colored leather suit made by a sporting goods house. The skirt is narrow and short, slit in the back, then lapped over to allow room for walking. The trench coat is cut double-breasted, with large, bundle pockets and straight, stiff cuffs in which a woman now places her purse and handkerchief. The cap, the umbrella and the knitted muffler, which goes twice about the neck, are in dark red. The double row of buttons are made of leather, and tan shoes, with rubber soles and heels, are laced up as high as the new regulations will permit.

Leather is costly, you know, and every woman does not feel that she can indulge in it, but heavy brown tweed, which stands the rain in an admirable manner, is used as a substitute by another well-dressed woman. This has a short skirt heavily stitched at the hem, and the odd blouse, which looks like a jacket, goes over the shoulders, is fastened at each side of the chest, and has a muffler as an attached collar. The buttons on this suit are of leather, and the loops that go over them are of stitched tweed. There is a flat cap of brown leather, and the high shoes have no heels, but thick, extension soles and leather laces.

When Old Clothes Are Used. There are women who cling to their old suits and frocks for certain occasions. Nothing can divorce them from these garments as long as they hold together. Habit of mind compels these women to use these clothes for umbrella days, but the necessity for warmth may compel them to get a storm coat that covers all the shabbiness beneath and presents to the outside world that spick-and-span appearance which suggests that something new is at hand.

The best of these storm coats is of rubberized cloth, with cap to match. It is made like a chemise-frock, with immense pockets at the hips, a turned-up cuff at the hem, and a wide, feebly collar that hugs the back of the neck and fastens across the chest with two leather buttons. The high-waisted belt fastens in front with a leather button.

Whatever else you eliminate in your rain apparel, don't omit pockets. They have taken a new lease of life. The soldiers have taught us their smartness, and necessity has taught us their convenience. They must be big enough to hold packages, and warm enough to protect the hands.

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IN EVENING GOWNS

Formal Apparel Shows Tendency to Sheath Draping.

Silver Motifs and Jade Tulle Over Satin—Tunics Are Edged With Fur.

Brilliant we must be if we are to dress for the evening in any of the new frocks. The only choice left us is that between two manners—that is the brilliancy of color or brilliancy of light reflected from spangles and metal cloths.

A few of the more conservative women still wear the browns and blacks of the early season, and these serve as a background to make the other frocks appear still more brilliant. With the amount of spangles, sequins and metallic tissues used this would hardly appear necessary, but the lively shades of rose and purple are decidedly charming. A genius at scenic effects could hardly select a medley of colors with better results than was notable one evening lately at a small affair where the rose color and silver tissue frocks flashed up as vivid notes in contrast to the brown and black velvet gowns worn by the majority of the women.

One cannot help but note that most of the formal evening gowns show a decided tendency to the sheath draping, and so closely is the hem drawn in that it would not be possible to use lace in this manner. Heavier materials serve as foundations and overdraperies of tulle or chiffon may or may not exist. One thing is evident, and that is a complete lack of anything bordering on the quaint or unsophisticated. Frocks of this type are strictly reserved for the jeune fille.

Among the tight, sheathlike gowns is one described as of green jade tulle over a satin foundation, the tulle embroidered in motifs of silver and tufts of feathers. Another is of black tulle embroidered in gold and black. This model also makes use of the feather trimming in black.

Callot's evening gowns, recently exhibited in Paris, are described as magnificent. One of black silk muslin is shrouded in embroidered tulle. A long piece like a stole trails from the back of the neck to the hem of the skirt, although part of it is lost from sight underneath the skirt. Low and round at the neckline, it is edged with jet embroidery and strings of the jet fall from each shoulder.

Cheruit is sponsor for long evening gowns, longer than Callot shows here, who, however, modifies the shortness by a narrow panel-like train.

Equally the evening gowns are also long, an effect produced by elongated panels on irregular lengths of material.

FOR AFTERNOON OR STREET



This charming frock of blue serge with black satin-fringed sash and very stylish embroidered panel, is a beautiful model for afternoon or street wear.

Wash Suits for Children.

Despite the fact that there has been considerable talk in cotton goods lines about price cutting and cancellations, manufacturers of children's wash suits are still doing a good business. With the exception of the cases of a few small retailers there have been very few cancellations, and firms are working on the large orders that they received for spring delivery. Military styles are big sellers, and it is expected that they will continue so during the next season.

BEADS WITH BAG AND TURBAN



As the popularity of beads is growing constantly among well-dressed women, dealers are showing strings of oriental beads which combine gracefully with the beautifully-colored bags and smart little turbans.

ROSES TO ORNAMENT FROCKS

Poses Being Used to Decorate Many Kinds of Gowns—Revival of Old Elizabethan Fashion.

There is much about the latter end of the eighteenth century that is coming back into fashion. The deeply square décolletage with the high line at the back, the tight elbow sleeves with their deep ruffles of precious lace, the ornamental bow of faint blue ribbon in front, and the garlands of little roses appear daily among smart society and in the salons of those exclusive dressmakers who claim that they never become slaves to any one mode of dressing.

There are two designers in New York who use pink roses to ornament various kinds of frocks and coats. They both draw inspiration from the eighteenth century, but they are not in accord with the house of Callot, which chooses roses that are full-blown, soft and becoming.

The roses which we see on these new frocks that come from certain exclusive houses have the appearance of being covered with shells. Some are tawdry and smack of the Christmas tree; others appear to be cut from porcelain. They represent a certain era in dressing, and they are faithful to type.

There are evening gowns which have rows of these glittering, stiff little roses to outline the décolletage and the armholes as well. There are other gowns that have a garland of these roses arranged like a looped chain of pearls across the front of the corsage, and another row at the top of each deep ruffle of lace that hangs pendant from the elbow sleeves.

Strange to say, in connection with this rococo style of ornament, there has arisen a revival of the old Elizabethan fashion of ornamenting velvet gowns. This shows itself in the use of pearls to catch up the hem of skirts and sleeves, and these pearls are often a part of a fine latticework done in gold thread.

LATEST IN VICTORY DESIGN

Combines Fleur-de-Lis of France, the English Rose and the American Golden Rod.

There has come out a fabric, and also a new embroidery, which combines the fleur-de-lis of France, the English rose, and the American golden rod. It is called the victory design, and those who exploit it are trying to make it among the accepted ornamentations for the season.

It may be that women will not care for the grouping of these three national flowers, but there seems to be every reason to believe that the French fleur-de-lis, which has gone through the history of that country and has been the symbol of so many of its victories, will be the leading design in the fabrics which will be worn during the great celebrations abroad.

There is no talk of America's launching new gowns for whatever celebrations may come. The eyes of our buyers, manufacturers and dressers are turned toward Paris, and each is making a great effort to get over there, despite the scarcity of passports given out in this country.

Hair Ribbon Economy.

Little daughter's hair ribbons should be made to do duty as long as possible. When soiled they may be thoroughly cleaned by shaking for a few seconds in a solution of soda—a teaspoonful baking soda to one quart of boiling water. Rinse the ribbons in cold water, dry for two or three minutes in a towel and press with a hot iron. This process removes all dirt, as suggested, but does not injure the color.

Javelle Water.

This is used in Chinese laundries to whiten their linen. It will remove most any kind of stain. One-fourth cupful to a boiler of clothes will make them very white. One gallon of water, four pounds washing soda, one pound common soda. Heat all together, add two pounds bleached lime. After it has stopped foaming pour off and bottle.

AS STYLES CHANGE

Women Who Can Sew Manage to Keep Step With Fashion.

Interesting Little Frock of Taffeta or Printed Fouleard Offered as Early Spring Model.

Each season's styles have such a way of overlapping that the average woman just about completes her wardrobe when along comes information as to what is to be worn in the season immediately to come.

Fortunately during the past two or three seasons there have been very few radical style changes, and the woman who can sew and has ideas of her own can usually manage to keep step with Dame Fashion in a reasonably satisfactory manner.

The little frock shown in the sketch is offered as an early spring model, but it is not sufficiently extreme to demand classification with any particu-



Frock of Taffeta or Printed Fouleard.

lar season. It may easily be made at home, using a pretty printed silk. A draped dress of this kind is becoming to nearly all figures. The basic deep ruffle of lace that hangs pendant from the elbow sleeves. The bodice material is drawn safely about the figure, made over a fitted lining, of course, and fastens at one side and on the shoulder. The left side is usually preferred for the closing, unless the woman for whom the gown is intended is left-handed.

The sleeves are exceptionally smart. As will be seen, they fit the arms closely, are wrist length, and a row of buttons extends from shoulder to wrist.

SAPPHIRES IN FRONT RANK

Precious Stone Said to Be in Forefront Compared With Other Expensive Fashionable Gems.

That person, man, woman or Bohemian, who wishes to be in it, to use the English equivalent for the French phrase, will wear sapphires. Such is the edict of fashion. One reason for this is that it has been comparatively easy to imitate the ruby, hitherto enthroned as the sapphire gem, says the New York Times. Another probably is that the sapphire has been somewhat neglected, and it is prudent to get rid of accumulated stock.

As an incident of the edict demobilizing the ruby and calling the sapphire to the colors, we are told that diamonds and pearls are still the most expensive and most fashionable jewels. The latter part of this statement is tautology in its crudest form. As if anything could be the most expensive and avoid being the most fashionable. Still another interesting bit of this jewel gossip states that diamonds and pearls have increased 100 per cent in price since the war began, proving that they are worthy associates of King Coal. The information probably will serve to halt those who have been considering burning their surplus diamonds in the furnace to conserve the coal supply. And it also seems that the most aristocratic of gems feels the ebb and flow of the tide of labor, for it is said that the South African field has been confronted with a labor shortage. Such statements are truly alarming and probably will set many to hoarding diamonds, but news is news and must be given out.

Window Decollatage.

Window decollatage is one of the new things in afternoon frocks. A bodice so constructed shows an oval opening in the front some three inches below the round neckline, and on each sleeve two or three inches above the short elbow sleeves.

Through the Looking Glass

BY EVELYN NESBIT

It is a secret—a dreadful secret—and friend husband must not know.

It would be death and destruction if he should find out. So thinks Marguerite. She had the package sent to her friend's house, so that he would not discover the wrapping paper and the string that confined her latest extravagance. But some day, she told herself, she would tell him that Cousin Anne had bought it for herself, but that it was too small for her, so Anne made of it a present to Marguerite. As for the hole the package had made in her husband's household treasury, Marguerite borrowed from sister to make it up. So hubby never would find out, and things would smooth out somehow.

Marguerite did not know what a tangle she had made for herself. She stroked her wrinkled brow—worry wrinkles already! Then she smiled as she thought of the wonderful seal-skin coat that was causing all the fun.

But if Marguerite had been a wise woman she would not have caused herself all this uneasiness. She had fallen into the depth of iniquity, it is true, by wasting her money. But why did she add insult to injury by trying to cover it over with lies, borrowing, deceit? Why did she not tell her husband at once what she had done? Why would she avoid the consequences that made her life miserable and made her detect that scrap of seal-skin.

Astute that he would storm if he told him! She did not consider how much he would storm if by some chance he should find out by accident how she lied to him and deceived him in addition to being extravagant. All probably he would not have storming at all had she "loosed up" at once. Taking him into her confidence would have brought them closer together than ever, whereas sneaking about behind his back laid the foundations for a breach.

HAND-PAINTED, EMBROIDERED



The model shown above is a gown of dove color, hand-painted, and embroidered.

Tucks a Feature.

Tucks are a feature of the season. If one fashions delicate blouses at home and feels unable to cope with the embroidery of hemstitching, there is always tucks as an alternative. A body can make tucks—all they require are a measuring rule, a fine needle and silk thread. Some of the new georgette blouses are first fastened up and down in patches, and across in deep inch-wide bands, being across, and then the fastenings are made in patches, and many of the sheer, buttoned blouses have patches of tucks with tuck. The first tucks are on the side of the coat, from throat to waist, and giving a dainty, feminine touch to the tailored costume.