

### BLOUSE IN DEMAND

Middy in a Straight Jersey Silk is a Smart Thing.

Popular Garment May Be Worn as a Substitute for Sweater, Short Waist or Culrass.

No sooner had we heard of the straight jersey silk middy blouses worn at Monte Carlo by smart women than the shops introduced them in America, writes a fashion authority. We got clothes by wireless these days. The garment and the cable come together. It must be a delightful truth to the American people that this is so; that they can see in their own shops everything that Europe offers, and almost as quickly as Europe accepts it. Of course the American public does not accept a novelty as quickly as France does. It takes six months, as a rule, between there and here. We accept our own fashions, however, more quickly than we do the French ones.

Take the instance of the long, tight skirt which was put into the channels of fashion last fall. This is a good example of how rapidly the American continent takes up something that is introduced here. This skirt is worn from the R. F. Y. routes to the centers of all great cities. We are very, very tired of it by this time. It goes in at the knees, back and front, and permits walking only through a slit at the back. It is sold for any price that one has in the purse. The reason for the popularity of the American designs is that they are sent out by salesmen into every place where clothes are bought and sold.

All of which is to say that when the Riviera began to show those loose Jersey silk blouses, which are quite negligible in appearance, the American shops offered them for the Florida Riviera. They are merely straight pieces of brilliantly colored silk Jersey in a heavy or a thin weave. In golden yellow, for instance, they look like the gold mesh bags that women carry. They are so supple that they do not really stand away from the figure; they just wrinkle against it. The neck is high or low, and the sleeves are elbow length or long. They are trimmed with a band of Jersey in another color. This outlines the neck and wrists, the edges of the pockets are put in, and sometimes the hem, where it flattens against the hips or turns up to form a purse pocket and one for handkerchiefs.

Any kind of skirt seems to do for these vivid blouses, and over them are worn satin mantels, short sealskin coats and rippling capes of horizon blue broadcloth. In the American reports they will be the smart thing, worn as a substitute for a sweater, a shirtwaist or a culrass blouse. Women who have money have ordered six or eight of them in such colors as gold, henna, tomato red, French blue, English rose pink and Irish green. There is no attempt to have them demure, although it is considered quite smart to wear one of dead white edged with black over a white, plaited crepe de chine skirt, and with a white and black hat. Other women who try out this black and white scheme add a deep set sailor hat of lacquered scarlet straw.

#### The Loose Back Panel.

The present season has a fondness for loose panel effects, both on gowns and on suit-coats. Sometimes, in connection with gowns, these panels will reach from the neck far to the bottom of the skirt, being caught just a bit at the waistline. In order to hold their shape, on coats, the panels occasionally widen out into almost military capes.

### DANCE GOWN FOR YOUNG MISS



Dainty and artistic is this dance frock for the young miss. It is in special shades of shell pink with ribbon.

### ALL-DAY FROCK OF TAFFETA



When midday desires to spend the day without changing frocks she will find this costume especially designed for her need. It has a Fisher necklace and a stunning winged tongue-of-tate d'Nigre straw and satin. Blouse is accordion pleated taffeta.

### REVIVE SMOCK FOR SERVICE

Loose Garment is in the List of Wearables for This Spring and Summer.

Many, many years—centuries in fact—the peasants in France have worn the loose garment known as a smock, and no one challenged their right to a monopoly on that garment. Then some time in the last century artists—sculptors and painters—began wearing this type of garment in their ateliers and studios until that shapeless, comfortable garment came to suggest all that one associates with French studio life. It was not unnatural that artists on this side of the Atlantic took to the smock as a matter of convenience as well as because of association.

Next the smock was borrowed for some rather extreme garden frocks. And it was considered really extreme when it first was worn out of the studio. But it became popular, and it was featured as a sport garment, and then every one went about in smocks. In fact, it went the way of all things popular to oblivion.

Then—and the vogue of the smock had nothing to do with the tendency—the blouse that extends below the waistline came into being. It supplanted to a certain extent the old-time blouse that is tucked into the waist of the skirt.

And, so far from appearing extreme or outlandish, sloppy or graceless, the type of garment known as the smock is the most natural thing we could do for garden wear and sport wear and wear about the house. So the smock is revived for the spring and summer.

### NEW CHIFFONS AND CREPE

Corn-Color Taffeta Combined With Yellow and White Georgette Create Chic Spring Frock.

Along with all the other blessings of the season, spring has brought with it the most delightful new chiffons and georgette crepes in quaint designs, notes a fashion correspondent.

Corn-color taffeta combined with yellow and white georgette to create one of the loveliest little frocks I have seen for spring. The material was white and was plentifully sprinkled with yellow corn leaves, conventionalized into a clever design.

Frills are frivolous, and this frock was indeed gay with its numerous tiny taffeta ruffles set on several inches below the waist and continuing to the ankles. The bodice, too, was quaint, with its square neck and long sleeves. Ruffles about an inch wide outlined the neck and sleeves, and were set on three rows deep. And then to enhance the delicate beauty of the crepe there was a narrow blue grosgrain sash with long ends drooping in back. The butterfly daintiness of the frock appeals strongly to that delightful age known as the "teens."

#### The New Embroideries.

More handwork is being done on frocks than ever, it seems, but this embroidery is not being confined to wools or silks. There is a lot of straw embroidery, the straw being the soft, silky kind of a pliability rivaling raffia. Particularly good for hats, bags and summer frocks generally is this straw work. Then one sees a lot of ribbon embroidery. Indeed, the ribbon for this work can be bought by the spool in all the new bright shades. It, too, is very soft and more like the bundle wrapping ribbon to be seen at Christmas time. Wide girdles on frocks are showing a single flower worked out with the colored ribbons either directly embroidered through the material or couched on with silk or other ribbon.

## The Scrap Book

### PLACES FREE FROM PLAGUE

Not Always Easy to Explain Why Some Spots Should Be Blessed Above Others.

Men who work in blast furnaces are singularly free from influenza. The reason is rather difficult to see, unless it is the tremendous sweating they get. On the other hand, they are exposed to frightful draughts.

That the people who work in the salt districts in Cheshire, England, should be fairly safe from flu is not so strange, seeing that doctors all recommend us to gargle freely with salt water as a preventive against the disease.

As a matter of fact, the salt districts are always safe places in times of epidemic diseases.

Influenza, as we know, is just as bad or worse in the tropics than in our own uncertain climate. It has been raging in India, and is traveling up through South Africa, past the Zambesi.

South Africa can, however, boast of freedom from one of the worst of diseases. So far as known a case of hydrophobia has never been known in the whole of Africa south of the Sahara, and that although it is common enough in Morocco, Algiers and Egypt. Tuberculosis also, the horrible white scourge, is very rare in South Africa.

The little island of St. Kitts is one of the healthiest of all the British Isles. It is only when the supply ship arrives there, as it does two or three times in the summer, that anything happens. Then the whole population catches cold, and are ill for about four days.

### SONG AND SENTIMENT.

#### Leaders of Men.

When they are dead, we heap the laurels high Above them, where indifferent they lie. We join their deeds to unaccommodated praise, And crown with garlands of immortal bliss Whom, living, we but thought to cruelty.

As mountains seem less glorious, viewed too high, So often do the great whom we deify, Gigantic loom to our astonished gaze, When they are dead.

For, shamed by largeness, littleness die; And, partisan and narrow hates put by, We shrive our heroes, for the future days.

And to stone our ignorant delays, With fond and amateur devotion try, When they are dead.

—Florence Earle Coakley, From "The Book of Lincoln."

#### Lumber Used in War.

Figures alone do not make much impression on the average person, except in a vague sort of way. Presented in a manner which allows a picture to be visualized, the effect is altogether different. One may have read that 400 million feet of timber were cut in American forests and transported to shipyards on the coast in a little more than a year, but it is only when the American Forestry Magazine says that this amount of lumber would serve to build a bridge 25 feet wide from the United States to France that one grasps the significance of the vast total. All this wood was yellow pine. Other kinds have been cut and used for other purposes, as for building aircraft. It is not strange in the light of these reports that professional foresters are calling for increased tree planting in America as well as in France.

#### Why Foch is Great Soldier.

"Great results in war" Foch says, are due to the commander. History is therefore right in making generals responsible for victories, in which case they are glorified; and for defeats, in which case they are discredited. Without a commander in battle, no victory is possible. The will to conquer, such is victory's first condition, and therefore every soldier's first duty, but it also amounts to a supreme resolve which the commander must, if need be, impart to the soldier's soul. A battle won is a battle in which one will not confess oneself beaten."

In that last remark Foch truly reveals himself.

#### Valuable Asset.

"Did the distinguished visitor go away singing the praises of your town?"

"No," replied the chairman of the reception committee. "I'm afraid he was a bit disappointed in the industrial growth of our town, but he made one remark in which we can all justly take pride."

"What was that?"

"He said we had the finest golf links in seven states."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

#### Motor-Driven Wheel Chair.

An electrically driven wheel chair is a recent invention designed to make invalids more independent of attendants. In a case beneath the seat is a storage battery which drives a motor connected by gearing with the axle, while a lever attached to the left arm gives the occupant full control of the speed.

#### Menigized.

One of the unheroic sights of early peace is the menigization of the once terrible engines of war. The snappy, fighting little French tanks are being ignominiously reduced to the condition of agricultural tractors. It is ludicrous to observe how the warrior has been equipped with a sunshield driven into it from resting.

### Details of the Victory Liberty Loan

- \* Amount .....\$4,500,000,000
- \* Interest rate .....4%
- \* Maturity .....4 years
- \* Option of redemption by Government.....3 years
- \* Convertible into 3% notes
- \* exempt from all taxes except estate and inheritance.

### PUPILS ASKED TO REPORT BIG LOAN

All Schools in Second District Supplying Stories of Victory Note Drive.

School children in every community in New York State, Northern New Jersey and Fairfield county, Connecticut, have been called upon to become reporters of Victory Liberty Loan events, and to send their stories to the Division of Schools, Publicity Department, Liberty Loan Committee, 120 Broadway, New York City, from where they will be distributed to newspapers for publication, to help boost the Victory Loan. Principals of schools are co-operating.

The underlying idea of the plan is to help sell Victory Notes. It is believed that children, many of whom are natural reporters, can gather news material acceptable to editors. Stories will be read by members of the editorial staff of the Publicity Department and then forwarded for publication, frequently in home towns of the embryo reporters. Others will be given State-wide publication. When the Victory Liberty Loan campaign is well under way, it is expected sufficient news stories will have accumulated to warrant publication of a little volume which will be a news history of the Victory Loan. This will be sent to schools to help sell Victory Notes.

Instructions sent to principals of schools explain exactly what is wanted. Nothing like this was attempted during any of the past campaigns of the Liberty Loan Committee. Children are asked to write about three hundred words or less, for each story. Teachers may be requested to decide if certain of the stories submitted should be sent by the children, but it is against the rules of the contest for a teacher to even dot an "i." News is what the Publicity Department wants, and corrections in grammar, style, inadvertently, "kill" the whole story of the child. Editing will be attended to at the New York City point of mobilization of the stories.

Principals have been asked to explain to pupils that news stories are brief, concise statements of facts, of general interest, but which are not generally known. Request is made in the letter to principals that children be told that news stories are built around one or more points and that what the writer considers the most important of these usually appears in the first sentence of the first paragraph.

From the mass of stories that will be flowing into the Division of Schools, Publicity Department, it is hoped there will be many that will prove of human interest. Responsibility of school girls is just as great as that of the boys, in helping the Victory Loan by thus helping to gather news. Principals have been requested to tell the girls to jot down any item while it is still fresh. Then it is submitted to the teacher, read by her, or by a committee of older children, and sent to New York.

### FINISH THEIR JOB!



The dollar-hider endangers his own funds and his personal safety, also he works against prosperity. Money buried in the ground or stowed away under carpets, in cupboards, clocks, mattresses, bureau drawers, trunks, etc., is idle money—a temptation to thieves—an incentive to crime. Money kept in your safe is never safe; it becomes a bait to the midnight marauder. Take a tip, Dollar-hider, buy a Victory Note—have it registered—and sleep in peace.

Do you want prices to come down? Do I? Does everyone? Of course! Then let's each of us help bring them down. Can we? Of course! Pay our debts for this war and finish up the whole business right, and then just see how the prices come down? Buy Victory Notes!—Mary Graham Bonner.

### Styles May Come and Styles May Go



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