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Length of Skirt Still Undecided

Fall Garment May Reach
Closer to Ground, View
of Lucien Lelong.

There are faint signs on the horizon of the lowering hemline for next autumn, writes a fashion correspondent in the New York Herald-Tribune. Despite the occasional lessening of the skirt length at the recent demaison openings, close observers insist that late summer and early fall will witness skirts that are a few inches closer to the ground. That at least is the view of Lucien Lelong, who makes the forecast, although he would prefer to see the present knee-length abbreviation remain. Following is an enlightening commentary on this always interesting subject, written by M. Lelong.

"Skirts, like the days, are growing longer. The thing is almost imperceptible yet, and I sincerely trust that it will remain so. And yet there is no doubt that skirts are about to lengthen a little. I was certain that in my new mid-season collection of gowns the skirts were as short as ever; and yet, when I make the comparison with the recent past, I see that on the average the hems are a little closer to the ground. I have unconsciously yielded to an influence that is certainly just now in the air. "But I hope—and I can only hope—that this trend will not continue. I do not like long skirts. Skirts at their present length are admirable for an artistic design in a dress. This may be only one of these slight seasonal fluctuations that will be forgotten by autumn, or it may be the start of a movement that will actually change the silhouette. We shall have to wait to see.

"If, however, it is the start of a grand movement, then it has a spiritual meaning; for style expresses the tempo of life and the way women feel. The best dress designs are those closest in sympathy with the movement in existence at the moment. And so, if skirts are getting longer, it is an indication of a change in spirit on the part of women.

"There are many examples to show that proud independence and brevity of skirts march together. The symbol of liberty could just as well be the knee-length skirt as the eagle. Women who have sought most independence—women like Catherine of Russia and Christine of Sweden—have abandoned skirts altogether and have worn the 'guy' of men. It was one of the charges brought against Joan of Arc.

"Brevity of skirt is a sign of liberty, and for that reason I cannot conceive of women's skirts being very long again in our time. Long skirts are not in harmony with the spirit of independence which the modern woman has developed. For that reason I think that the present lengthening tendency must be of short duration."

White Silk Printed Dress for Sports Wear



Here is a lovely white silk printed dress designed for sports wear. It has a belt of green suede and a green silk tie. It should appeal to the young women.

Sheer Fabrics Favored for Evening Apparel

The colors for the evening favored at the present time are pink, white, black, abstiné, charréuse, mauve, cyolamen and blue. Silk tulle as well as the more customary chiffon, georgette and lace now are used for evening frocks. Very-fell skirts with panels, points, petals, godets and flounces are best suited for models made in these fabrics. Frequently these are embellished all over. The bodices are plain or trimmed with some embroidery, not much decolleté in front (in a rounded shape usually), but often with a very low point at the back.

Elegance is the keynote of the evening mode, and beauty of material is allied to subtle sophistication of line in the creation of effects which are distinguished because of their perfect simplicity. Gold and silver linge and very beautiful broche-linge are much employed for the more formal type of evening gown.

Novelty Crepe in Tan, Brown Velvet Flowers



Showing a lovely model for afternoon, made of novelty crepe in tan, and trimmed with brown velvet flowers appliqued to the dress. In style the dress is quite simple, with short, tight bodice and wide circular skirt. The sleeves are long with puffs at the cuffs.

Parisians, Americans at Odds on Fashion Details

The Parisian and the American are always at odds when it comes to little details of fashion. The main fashion ideas of Paris are always carried out in America but we are not always ready to accept minor style details. For instance, the smart French woman is now wearing black glazed kid gloves of short type with little ruffles at the wrists while the smart American invariably wears suede in light shades such as parchment, beige or gray. In the matter of corsage for day wear, the Parisian prefers leather boutonnieres to the silk or cotton flowers of American preference. At present leather asters with shirvelled petals painted in oriental colors and outlined in silver or gilt are considered very swank in Paris. Patent leather flowers in colors with the inside of the petals tinted with opalescent tuster are another novelty. For wear with the sports outfit, varicolored flowers of felt are considered smart.

While we are wearing parchment colored hosiery the Parisian wears beige and rose de bols. Recently there has been an effort to bring white stockings back into vogue and many well dressed Parisians are wearing them with black shoes. So far, this style has not been launched in America.

"Some of the most attractive wraps in Paris are in reality mackintoshes. The American wears rubberized silk raincoats in bright or pastel shades which are strictly for rain purposes. The French woman combines the raincoat with the street coat in a garment resembling lustrous satin which completely camouflages its utility purpose. A stunning wrap of this type is a rubberized black satin coat with a detachable cape lined throughout in white.

Fur Trimming Adorns Chic Coat for Summer

A coat in one of the heavier silks is extremely smart for summer days. One coat is developed in green bengaline. Most of the fullness is at the back, as now is the fashion, and is attained by panels which hang loose, being applied to the coat in a rounded movement which gives a very graceful line. The indication of a higher waistline in the front is of particular interest.

One now is accustomed to see fur trimmings—even important ones—on summer models, and many coats have light fur collar and cuffs. This mode probably will persist as there is nothing so becoming as a fur collar. As for fur borders, these are seen even on chiffon wraps or coats.

From Paris comes news of the latest trends in millinery. Lewis continues to make much gold and silver kid trimmings on felt hats. The gold or silver forms narrow borders or quite important insertions. A black straw beret, for instance, was fixed in front to a strip of silver kid.

Other trimmings, and these are newer and more numerous, are made with grosgrain ribbon, which very often is plisse even when inserted into felt or straw. There also are hats made entirely of wide grosgrain ribbon, and in a very pretty model the crown was black in front and pink at the back. Most of Lewis' hats are small and have rather high crowns, which are "squashed," plaited or draped, while the brims are irregularly turned up.

Sports Lines Rule the Mode

At almost every summer resort costumes of the semi-sports type are the rule for practically every daytime occasion. And while the materials may differ according to the time and the place, the general silhouette remains the same. Comfort and convenience are allied to chic and distinction in these models, which combine all the utilitarian features of the long-accepted sports clothes plus a vastly more delightful appearance.

Her Romantic Engagement

By H. LOUIS RAYBOLD

(Copyright)

EVERYONE used to remark to the Chisholm girls, "How lovely it must be to be twins!"

But Janice Chisholm always had to stifle the impulse to add, "Lovely for which twin?"

Janice was so quiet, so retiring, so unassuming that she was invariably eclipsed in a crowd by her livelier sister Jean.

It was perhaps but natural that by the time the girls had reached twenty, Janice had had but one proposal—and that just a blunt "Let's get married some day" from Bill Davis, who lived next door—while Jean had had three honest-to-goodness name-the-day offers from really eligible young men.

As it happened, the last one of the trio, a handsome young doctor by the name of Elliot Shepard, had met Jean through Janice, who had brought him home to supper one night after a football game. He had developed into a sort of friend of the family and then, from that advantageous springboard, had leaped into love with Jean.

But Jean did not accept him. On the contrary she assumed an indifference of attitude which plagued Elliot and puzzled everybody else.

In desperation Janice evoked a scheme whereby Jean should feel free to "be nice to Elliot." But in order to carry out her idea, she found it necessary to take into confidence and connivance the youth who had wanted to be married some day.

"Billy," she broached the subject as they sat on the veranda steps in the twilight, "do you remember asking me to marry you some time, and what I said?"

"Of course," said Bill. "You said the idea was nonsense. That you wanted true romance in your life. That nothing ordinary and everyday would satisfy you. That—"

"All-right," broke in Janice. "I still feel the same way. But I'd like to pretend to be engaged. Not publicly, but just to the family. If Jean thinks I'm engaged to you, she'll be engaged to Elliot."

"I don't know," objected Billy. "It sounds to me more like a scheme to make young Shepard jealous."

"Nonsense," said Janice. "Of course, if you won't do it, you won't. But I did think, just as a favor to me, you'd agree," she finally finished plaintively.

"I will," said Bill, after a moment. "Just when does the arrangement start?"

"Now," returned Janice promptly, but when Bill, with a grin, started to put his arm about her slender waist, she wriggled from the embrace like a young eel. It was evident she wanted the name without the game.

Janice told her sister right away, "I'm engaged to Billy," she said. "Congratulations!"

For a second Jean looked doubtful as one who hears something quite too good to be true. Then she flew to Janice. "You darling! I just can't believe it, but we know Bill adores the ground you tread on, and he's a perfect old den, anyhow!"

Three days later, the announcement of the engagement of Miss Jean Chisholm to the rising young physician Elliot Shepard, was spread through the community. Jean herself went about with an expression of bliss upon her pretty face that was lovely to see. Janice watching her, wondered how it would seem to be so utterly sure of herself, and of the man she was going to marry.

She had seen very little of Bill. An occasional call to help out the doctor of their betrothal, but that was all. He had not tried again to presume upon their temporary relationship and had treated her indifferently, if not coldly.

But on the afternoon following the announcement of her twin's engagement, Bill hunted up Janice deliberately and found her cooling off after a strenuous game of tennis, her hair clinging to her forehead in damp little tendrils.

"Come for a walk," he begged. "Two just got to see you."

Curious, Janice yielded, and they strolled from the courts down along the winding river whose surface sparkled in the afternoon sun.

At a bend in the road where they were screened from observers, Bill stopped short. "Look here, Janice," he said abruptly. "We've got to end this farce right away, now that I'm sick of it."

"Why—why—Billy!" cried the girl. Then, quietly, "Somebody else?"

"Of course not," snapped Bill. "I simply won't play a joke that which I would give my soul to have real!"

Janice drew in her breath. "Oh-o-o-h," she said. "I—I see. But—couldn't it be real?"

Bill looked for a moment as if suddenly bereft of his senses. "But you said—" he began.

"That I wanted romance," said Janice. "Well, I did. And don't you think it has been romantic? To get engaged, without really being engaged to help somebody else get engaged?" Her tone was triumphant.

"What I think," said Bill joyfully. "Is that you're a fraud and a goose. And I don't suppose I'll ever know whether you had this in mind from the beginning, or whether you're using it now as a hole to crawl out of!"

"No," said Janice implacably. "You never will!"

But this time, when he slipped his arm about her, she let it stay there and lifted her lips to meet his kiss.

HOW SOME OF MOST POPULAR FLOWERS WERE NAMED

One of the most popular single flowers among patrons of florists, as well as among the fortunate recipients of the florist's wares, says the Mentor Magazine is the fragrant carnation.

The origin of this name indicates that it means "lean color," for it can be traced through the French to the Latin caro (flesh), meaning "lean." The form of the word carnation is patterned after the Italian carnagione, "skin color." In the sixteenth century carnations were also called "incarnations" and "coronations." It may be seen, then, that the carnation was so named because of its color.

Gladiolus comes from the Latin diminutive of the word for "sword-ill." The rhododendron was named from two Greek words, signifying "rose tree." Phlox is literal Greek for "flame" (from the color of some of the flowers) and corresponds to the German flammenblume, or "flame flower." Aster is literal Latin for "star" and, survives in English in asterisk, which is the name for the "star mark" in typography.

The daisy was named after the sun or "day's eye," coming from Anglo-Saxon words of that significance. A heliotrope is a flower that, from the Greek derivation of its name, "turns toward the sun"—in other words, it is a botanical sun dial. Chrysanthemum comes from the Greek words meaning "gold flower."

How Shot Is Turned Out in Shot Towers

The process of manufacturing the shot commences with hoisting up the lead by an endless chain or winch driven by steam. It is then melted in kettles at the various dropping stations, alloyed and prepared for dropping. An iron handle or holder is then hung over the hatchway, which is open from bottom to top, and in this handle is placed a box, with the bottom perforated with holes of the size of shot to be manufactured. The descending stream separates into globules of exactly spherical form, which are cooled by their passage through the atmosphere, and finally fall into a reservoir of water. From the water tank the shot is raised by a ladle, or machinery, and passes into the dryer, where it is thoroughly dried, and thence to the polishing tank, or cylinder, where a little black lead is added and a swift rotary motion soon produces a high polish. There are some half a dozen shot towers in this country, consuming annually from 150,000 to 300,000 kegs of lead and turning out 5,000 tons of shot.

How Lightning Is Formed

The weather bureau says that when lightning is about to occur between a cloud and the earth (it usually occurs between different parts of the same cloud) there is a great accumulation of electricity of one kind, usually the negative; at the surface of the earth, and of the opposite kind in the lower portion of the cloud. This produces an electric strain on the medium between the two. The break, or discharge, consisting essentially of a flow of negative electricity, or electrons, toward the positive charge, may begin at any one point in midday along the path, and progress (this break progress) in both directions at the same time, or it may begin at either end and from there progress toward the other.

How Loud Is Niagara?

It is noisier at Niagara falls than it is on New York's busiest corner. This is the verdict of scientists who recently measured the roar of the great falls. The two noisiest places around the falls were at Prospect point and in front of the Cave of the Winds. At these points the noise measurement was 70 units, which is regarded as deafening. The measure of the noise at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Thirty-fourth street in New York is 55 units, according to the same instruments.—Exchange.

How Corn Caused Tear Flow

A constant rain of tears from the eye of Paul Whelan, a small boy of Humboldt, Kan., was stopped when doctors probed a lump at the corner of the eye. The swelling proved to be caused by a kernel of corn the point of which rested against the tear duct. It was recalled that the youth was struck in the eye with an ear of corn last summer, but nothing was thought of it at the time. He lost the sight of the other eye several years ago when struck with a brick.

How Sea Birds Drink

When sea birds are flying far out over the ocean, sometimes hundreds of miles away from land where there is fresh water, they must have some way of quenching their thirst. This they do by hovering about beneath a rain cloud and drinking in the drops as fast as they come down. An old skipper relates that these birds will smell a rain coming, then they will hover about beneath the clouds, and when the rain comes they will drink it.

Tragedy Not on Ground as Sailer Boat

In the old days of wharves and docks in the harbor town of New York, there were a number of small boats, known as "sailer boats," which were used for carrying goods and passengers. One of these boats, the "Sailer Boat," was recently involved in a tragedy. The boat was carrying a large number of passengers, and was being towed by a small tugboat. The tugboat was being operated by a young man, who was very inexperienced. The tugboat was being towed very close to the wharves, and the "Sailer Boat" was being towed very close to the wharves. The tugboat was being towed very close to the wharves, and the "Sailer Boat" was being towed very close to the wharves. The tugboat was being towed very close to the wharves, and the "Sailer Boat" was being towed very close to the wharves.

Peace and Promise in Nature's Face

It was a warm day, and the sun was shining brightly. The birds were singing, and the flowers were blooming. The world was full of peace and promise. The sun was shining brightly, and the birds were singing. The flowers were blooming, and the world was full of peace and promise. The sun was shining brightly, and the birds were singing. The flowers were blooming, and the world was full of peace and promise.

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