

# YOUR DAUGHTER AND HER BELONGINGS



For winter wear in the country nothing could be more serviceable than this putty color homespun suit with beaver collar and cuffs. Large, dull amber buttons are one of its marks of distinction.

Black may be very youthful, when the materials are soft and furry and fluffy, as in this afternoon frock of panne velvet and mousseline de soie, banded with black fox fur.

This dinner frock of primrose color taffeta and chiffon edged with dull gold lace has its sharply pointed corsage outlined with taffeta roses in shades of dull gold, natter blue and faded pink.

Evening frock of greenish amber taffeta trimmed with dull gold embroidery and black fox fur. The full skirt is made to appear even fuller by being caught up in back to display a pale amber and dull gold lace petticoat.

A black broadtail skunk-banded coat has two large braided frogs for trimming. The waist-coat is of black charmeuse embroidered in dull silver and black.

## The Young Girl Should Be Allowed to Express Her Own Individuality in Her Dress and in Her Surroundings

By ALLENE TUPPER WILKES.

ONE day you woke to the fact that you had a grown daughter. The knowledge came to you suddenly; it was something of a shock. Perhaps she appeared at the dinner-table with her hair twisted into a knot where once a bow of ribbon held in place her plait or bunch of curls. If you turned to her in reproof the contour of head and figure made you realize that your little girl had given place to the woman that little girl must become. If you were wise, the reproof was never given. Instead, you smiled back at her almost as self-conscious as a newly grown one herself.

Or perhaps the knowledge came to you more painfully, a fit of wilfulness which you were at a loss to understand or to check. She stayed away from home till a later hour than you allowed, and when you questioned and commanded you were passionately answered that she was grown, and would not be treated like a child.

A serious beginning for the discussion of clothes and house furnishings? Well, the subject is serious or the reverse according to the way we have been trained. There are few things that give a woman greater pleasure than the buying of her own and her children's clothing, if they are expressive of her own taste and individuality. And the furnishing of her home? Why, that is even a greater joy. But if the tastes and ability to express herself be lacking? Then confusion and disappointment and results that are neither a joy to her nor to any one else.

"I have no patience with these new theories that children should be allowed to assert themselves," a mother tells me. "My daughter shall wear the clothes I buy for her, as long as I pay for them, and she shall be content with my house as I choose to furnish it so long as she lives with me." Very good, if she is to continue to be dressed by you and to make her home with you, but what of the time when she must furnish a home of her own and do her own shopping? How shall she "know her own mind" when all of these years she has not been allowed to become acquainted with it? Is her taste to be a weak copy of yours? Or, the doubtful expression of the untried?

Rather allow her, even as a very little girl, some choice as to those things she lives with and wears. Let her pick out the ribbon that is to tie her hair. If her choice is a poor one, and it probably will be at first, try to make her understand why something else is better. "You have on a blue dress, and here is a blue ribbon of the same shade. See, it is quite as pretty as the pink one, and to-morrow you may wear pink with your white dress." Soon she will be choosing the right color for herself. It is infinitely better that she shall know

what is right than that she shall wear the correct choice of some one else.

It may be that you have thoughtlessly or unwisely withheld all choice from her, that she is nearing womanhood while still as dependent as when she was a child. Or she may be chafing under a restraint that she believes to be unfair. If she is a normal girl she is teeming with energy and ideals. Let her find an outlet, an expression, for this individuality of which she is becoming so con-

scious. The furnishing of her room, the selecting, and, as far as possible, the making of her own clothes, these things will help to keep her more patient with the mental and moral restraint under which she must learn to be content.

To a great extent it is true that we are bound by the material. Few of us are strong enough to rise superior to the depression of an unbecoming dress or the irritation of ugly surroundings. This is especially true with an impressionable girl. You may have decided quite wisely that simplicity and youthfulness are the chief requirements of your daughter's wardrobe. So her dress is cut on straight lines and is made of plain, serviceable stuff, but the girl who wears it may dimly realize that her slender figure and pale blondness look their worse in the clothes her mother chooses for her. She

thought to brighten it with drapery of yellow. Correct from a decorator's point of view, but the daughter loves pale blues and violets. She has set her heart on having soft gray painted furniture. It may be that she wants it badly enough to be willing to enamel the old bedroom set herself.

You know that pale yellow walls and white furniture are best in the dim room. What, then, will you insist? Take from her the joy of making over her own room in her own way? No; tell her your reason for believing the white and yellow best, but if the violet and gray are still her choice, let her have them. The room is hers to live in, and should be hers in reality. If afterward she comes to know that you were right, and that the colors she has chosen are "all wrong" in that particular room, then she has learned a valuable lesson. If, however, they continue to seem right to her, then for her they are right, you and the decorator notwithstanding.

Women have not all the same tastes, and a blessed thing it is, too, else the tenth commandment would continually be broken. One's delight is another's abomination. Still, there are certain definite standards of good taste, based on beauty, fitness and utility. To try to impose these on your daughter will be use-



Mousseline de soie, in hydrangea blue, an unusual and generally becoming shade, is trimmed with frills and silver lace; result, a quite delightful dinner frock.



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## MR. KONTA STATES THE CASE FOR THE HYPHENATES

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sums here. There are all kinds of pickings in a great war for adventurers who are not over-scrupulous. The English are adepts at the game of starting slanders."

"Upon what assurance is such slander launched?"

"Why, upon the assurance that the truth will never overtake it. Do you remember the stories of the ill treatment of American tourists in Germany in the early days of the war? There was not a word of truth in them. When the tourists reached home they indignantly denied these stories. However, the slander had served its purpose. Public opinion in America was falsely directed against us."

"As a matter of fact, a very small number of naturalized citizens at most are involved in Mr. Wilson's protest against anarchists and murderers. We may assume, therefore, that what our government has really to deal with in this crisis are foreigners either sent here direct by their government for a certain purpose or residents who have reached the conclusion that they owe no respect to the law of the land, have no regard for the property and lives of its citizens, and owe loyalty only to the country of their birth. These few, I wish to point out, are the worst enemies we naturalized citizens have. We are lumped with them in the rough and ready fashion common to public opinion, which is formed always on the spur of the moment in an emergency."

Expanding the point he had made earlier that hphenates were coming to be looked upon almost entirely as German-Americans or Austro-Hungarian-Americans, Mr. Konta asked that attention be directed to the extreme rarity of any talk about British, French and Italian hphenates.

"Why do we seldom hear about them?" he asked. "Simply because their sympathy with their native countries coincides with the opinion of the American majority. A great many of them are esteemed 'loyal' for the very reason that they love their native countries as ardently as the hphenates from the Central Powers are accused of loving theirs!"

"You believe, then, Mr. Konta, that German-Americans and Austrian and Hungarian-Americans are discriminated against in the United States?"

"I think decidedly yes," he answered. "However, I must add that the feeling seems to be more individual than concerted. The native American loves fair play. When the facts are all made known and the guilty are brought to lawful verdict, then the unfairness for which Americans have been responsible will be seen and deplored."

"It is my deep rooted conviction that all who have acted contrary to law and the ethics of patriotism should be punished vigorously. If there are men of my own race who have plotted against the welfare of this country I do not hesitate to condemn them. No partially ought to be shown. Wrongdoing knows no nationality. I hope with all my heart that the cases to which Mr. Wilson refers will turn out to be indeed few in number, so that there will be no rancid cause for just resentment visited on the mass."

"But if you, the minority, the hphenates, are being discriminated against, what are you going to do about it?"

He smiled ironically and answered in the same quiet manner as throughout the interview:

"What are we going to do? Probably what minorities always have done when discriminated against. Our status is that of all minorities. However convinced we may be that the majority is wrong, we must nevertheless submit it law and order are to continue. We may stick to our minority opinion. We may keep on defending and explaining our conviction, but it is our duty to accept the verdict rather than resort to extra-legal, to violent, means of conversion. But I do most earnestly believe that driving us in upon ourselves, segregating us, will only result in a strengthening, or at least a prolongation, of the very hphenated citizenship for which there is no room and no occasion in this country."

Mr. Konta spoke of the complications which have arisen over fires and other calamities sustained by munition factories engaged in supplying the Allies with war material.

"The manufacture of ammunition," he said, "is always an extra-hazardous occupation. Even when carried on with infinite caution accidents constantly happen. Only a few days ago we had news of an explosion in a German ammunition factory. 'Anarchists' the country has cried. 'Hphenates!' But it seems to me that in improvised factories, running day and night, employing unskilled or only partly skilled labor, accidents are scarcely to be avoided. There is no need of attributing malicious agency to them. Whether all the accidents which have occurred are to be ascribed to inevitable causes is, of course, another matter. We must patiently wait until the Department of Justice begins its prosecutions."

The final question put was this: "Do you believe that all American citizens, native or foreign born, should place America first always and under all conditions?"

"As for the attitude of the native American on this point I leave that for him to answer. From the standpoint of the foreign born citizen the answer is unhesitatingly YES."