

COMMON SENSE FROCKS FOR COMMENCEMENT DAY EXERCISES

Middy Blouse With White Skirt Recognized as the Great American Garment of Feminine Democracy—Georgette an Ideal Fabric for the Girl Graduate—Organdie Retains Its Well Merited Popularity

By MARTHA GOODE ANDERSON

SINCE public school classes choose the middy blouse and white skirt for commencement day exercises we are safe in recognizing this blouse as the great American garment of feminine democracy. It is within reach of the most limited purse and therefore can well serve as a class garment which leaves no distinction between pupils at least as to appearance.

The choosing of such simple things for commencement day has done away with a tremendous evil, for mothers, friends and relatives heretofore so vied with each other in their efforts to distinguish their own child that much unhappiness among less fortunate members in the school class resulted.

From this day of simplicity and common sense it is a long way back to the befrilled, befluffed and beribboned sweet girl graduate of long ago. The middy blouse with its exquisite freshness and whiteness repeated in row

after row of girls on the last day of school makes a fine picture of that summer whiteness and freshness we associate with youth and reverence.

Even where more elaborate frocks are permitted the class—and the matter of the commencement dress is settled in advance by a class vote—the frock is made in the simplest possible way and as a rule of the simplest material. For instance a good white lawn which can do duty all during the summer as a white dress is selected. Some of these lawn dresses are made with the full straight skirt gathered simply around the waist onto a band which joins the waist and makes the whole a one-piece affair. A wide hem is placed at the bottom. Clusters of tucks three together appear above this hem. The waist is of the simple shirt waist type with a wide collar crossing in surplus effect in front. For commencement day only a wide belt of the lawn is used so made as to be easily removed and replaced with a ribbon sash later on in the summer.

An ideal fabric for the commencement frock is white Georgette, which launders so well and is so soft and graceful in its drapery. Some very

lovely dresses of this have stiff tight petticoats of white taffeta over which are side panels of Georgette. Ruffles three inches wide are placed one above the other the depth of these panels and give a soft, fluffy look. The bodice is simply made in a loose blousé effect and a tiny striped belt of white moire ribbon with piping edges is tied about the waist. A row of wee bows made of the ribbon goes down the front of the bodice, thus giving a sort of vestee effect produced by the taffeta lining showing under the Georgette over blouse and held back by these small bows.

Organdie still popular. Of course organdie has never lost its popularity and some of the crisp dresses seem ideal for commencement day purposes. As a rule the organdies, white of course, have deep hems—hems so deep, in fact, that it really seems as if the material has been used double. This is done to obviate the use of more than one petticoat. This one is generally of white sateen or wash satin and goes by the name of "modesty skirt," as two panels are placed front and back to give further thickness. The narrowest of white satin ribbon is often used along the top of the hem, several rows being placed together to give a trimmed effect and relieve the extreme plainness of the skirt. Groups of these ribbon rows appear at intervals the depth of the skirt and set it off well.

Differing somewhat from the severe shirt waist bodice, these organdie frocks have the high bebe waists with a yoke rather in simple effect and low cut round neck, outlined with

deep organdie frills edged with the satin ribbon. Wide sashes of white satin ribbons are also permitted with these little frocks, though just as often the long organdie sashes are used. Somehow most mothers like to see frills on their daughters' graduation dresses. It is a pity that the frilly frock appears year after year on commencement day, fresh and crisp and lovely too.

A pretty model suggesting the high waist line of Marie Antoinette's days has the bosom crossed with wide surplus pieces befrilled the entire length and crossed in a small effect in the back to fall to the depth of the skirt.

In using this model all of the "fussiness" is placed on the waist and the skirt is plain with little fulness and no ruffles whatever. The sleeves stop at the elbow and are finished with fine, or unusual effect is obtained when a coarse meshed net is used. Materials together thus give a slight look of moire and the organdie is much prettier than when used over other linings.

Fine Nets in Vogue.

Where elaborate dresses are permitted one will make no mistake in selecting one of the fine nets which are to be so fashionable this summer and which indeed are so very lovely. One of these made over a slip of soft white China silk covered with a straight petticoat of net has the outer draperies of a fine cream colored net over which are hung four net panels forming the skirt. These panels are edged with a trailing bow embroidered in heavy white cotton. The embroidery is repeated on the waist and sleeves which are short and a very large sash of white satin is hung in a bow at one side and makes the wide crushed belt.

As most young girls are either overgrown or not grown enough at the time of graduation the commencement frock is usually a straight one-piece affair with as few broken lines as possible and little attempt to fit the figure. Nowadays all girls demand well made simple things rather than the frilly frocks of the long ago.

High heeled shoes are not worn by "young things" these days—the broad flat low shoes with common sense heel is the accepted model. In some instances teachers do not permit silk stockings to be worn—but doubtless this year the silk are quite reasonable as the cotton or lisle and the middy blouses, within everybody's reach. Teachers like to have many frocks and in buying for any special event such as the commencement it is always wise to think of possible after use and avoid extreme bizarre and striking effects which always mark a dress on its first wearing. Again this helps to teach the young wearer the necessary lesson of the dignity of the conservative to avoid that extreme look so many young girls seem to seek.



Commencement frocks of embroidered voile of Georgette with taffeta and of organdie with plaited frills.



A frock and sunbonnet of English print, one of frilled organdie and a play suit of gingham.

TROUSERS FOR WEE GIRLS COMING INTO FULL VOGUE

WHILE we profess ourselves shocked at the extreme shortness of the little French child's skirts we are accepting over here the vogue of smock and trousers for little girls without a flicker of an eyelash.

The small French girl wears her little dresses well above her knees and socks well below—just what we consider an awkward length. Our little girls have, of course, long worn the socks even in the coldest of winter weather, but it is seldom one sees the extreme abbreviation of the French skirts.

Just why American mothers are accepting the short smock and the little trousers for their small daughters it is not possible to say. Beyond a doubt the play dress for little girls this summer reveals the fact that the short, straight smock hanging unbelted over little trousers to match is not only new but distinctly stylish.

One saw a few of these strange little garments last summer and one hears rumors to the effect that little girls' dresses were now made without petticoats and that short trousers stopping just at the knees would be frankly worn by small girls—rumors, however, which were not taken seriously at first.

Now this summer it is no longer possible to overlook the fashion. We need not be entirely shocked at the return of the little trousers for girls for we have only to look at the photographs of our grandmothers' day to see that pantaloons were as much a part of her costume as were her shoes.

The Two Piece Affair.

The new variation of the bifurcated garments is exploited in the two-piece affair, the smock forming one and the trousers tacked on to a thin waist the other. These new little every day clothes are made of two materials and colors which combine well and which launder well. For instance, a blue chambray smock has a wide sailor collar of plaid gingham to match the blue of the chambray. The edges of this collar, which is wide open at the throat and cut quite deep, are finished with a buttonhole stitch of dark blue cotton thread which launders well. The short trousers, also of the blue chambray, have hems of the plaid gingham and stitches of the dark blue cotton thread.

One at first glance takes this little outfit for the small boy's middy suit until it is recognized that it appears amid the little cotton frocks, and for all its boyish look is intended for wee girls. Of course it is given the same sort of freedom from hampering clothing that little boys' things have.

In the summer even socks are discarded for the bare legs and sandals, also until now so much a part of small boys' outfits. It is understood that

as yet the smallest girls only are wearing these costumes—we cannot say yet what the age limit will be, however, since all feminine apparel seems to be changing rapidly with the rapidly changing times.

Where are the mothers of yesterday who spent hours sewing frills and ruffles and all sorts of hand work on their little daughters' clothes? We may well pause to ask if the girl of the future will discard skirts as her grandmother discarded the hoops esteemed in her day. For some years now all of the summer wash dresses which small girls have worn have had bloomers of the same material as the dress in place of petticoats—for school and play hours. These newer garments just described have gone away with the full and gathered knees of the bloomer and also have dispensed with buttons and buttonholes, as the smocks slip over the head, require no fastenings and the waist of the lower garment fastens with the convenient rustless snaps.

Challis for Little Folks.

Challis dresses for little folks are as fashionable as for grownups, and small hats are fashioned of the dress material just as for older people. Indeed, as to hats the expression for colors to have superseded the straw. Perhaps this fashion comes from France also, where the makers are so clever at using materials such as ribbons, bits of silk and soft satin in this way. Ostrich feathers are plentifully used on the lovely silken bonnets and hats which come from overseas, and lace, drawn over silken crowns, is more esteemed when used in this way than ever. Of course the feathers are very small and cleverly arranged, curling softly away from the small faces beneath.

In Paris the peasant bonnets of all French regions are being copied for these fabric hats—with delightful results especially for the very smallest child.

The small Kate Greenway dress is again in high favor for occasions. This sort of frock has the waist line almost under the arms and the skirt reaches quite to the ankles, where it is finished with a group of ruffles. Ribbon sashes of bright hues, velvet or silk, tie in streaming bows almost under the shoulder blades in the back and fall quite to the hem of the skirt. Ankle ties of black with white socks are worn with these quaint frocks. The ankle tie, by the way, is the prettiest of all small shoes, and certainly the easiest to wear, for the little strap buttoning around the ankle keeps the shoe in place, as the small wearer could never do with a slipper.

They flat buckles of leather finish the reaches quite to the ankles, where it is worn with the black ties. Keeping up the socks is a problem which has been met by the use of very narrow bands of elastic of the exact color of the stocking and which thus do not show. Care must be taken, however, not to have these elastic bands too tight so that the circulation will be stopped and the wearer made uncomfortable.

Contrasting with these elaborate

foreign frocks are the dainty organdies, dotted Swiss dresses and fine dimities from our own factories. Every little dress of this sort of material has its accompanying hat of dresses this year in simple effect and brilliant as the rainbow, and too we observe a determination to get away from the eternal pale shades such as pink and blue, and exploit the pronounced lavenders, yellows and bright reds and greens, until now left to grown-ups. Indeed, such a determination is so often combined in the most startling way—thus one will find a bright purple linen frock stitched with bright yellow threads around collar, pockets, belt, yoke and sleeves. It is not unpleasant and certainly distinctly different.

At a tea given last week by Mrs. Harrison Dashiell at the Hotel Plaza announced the engagement of her daughter, Mrs. Williams, to Harry C. de Rivera, son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. de Rivera of 131 West 117th street.

Mrs. Dashiell and her daughter have gone to their country home at Atlantic Highlands for the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Grinnell of the Belmont, Broadway and Eighty-sixth street, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Florence Grinnell, to P. N. Schwartz. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Bowly Le Huray of Summit, N. J., have made formal announcement of the engagement of their daughter, Miss Edith de Lima, to George Stuart Tabbot of Brooklyn. No date has been set for the wedding.

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Hauck will not take place until the autumn. Mr. Hauck returned recently from France, where he saw service with the 16th Machine Gun Battalion, with the Twenty-seventh Division.

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Mr. and Mrs. Elias A. de Lima of 58 West Eighty-seventh street have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Edith de Lima, to George Stuart Tabbot of Brooklyn. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Ballard of Bloomfield, N. J., have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Margaret Eveland Ballard, to George Bennett Hanford, Jr. Mrs. Ballard was an active war worker and connected with the Bloomfield Red Cross Motor Corps. Mr. Hanford, who is the youngest son of Mrs. George Hanford of Bloomfield and formerly of East Orange, served on the U. S. S. Mohican for three months and also for a year in the U. S. S. Raleigh on special Government duty, which was conducted secretly at West Orange, N. J.; Aberdeen, Md., and Key West, Fla.

Formal announcement of the engagement of Miss Helen Frances Silvester to William Raymond Root has been made by her father, Charles F. Silvester, of 1223 Madison avenue. Mr. Root is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. P. Root of Brooklyn and Glen Ridge, N. J. He was graduated from Columbia University and belongs to the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity.

From Greenwich, Conn., comes the announcement of the engagement of Miss Helen Austin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Austin of that place, to Harvey Edsworth Thomas, son of Judge and Mrs. Edwin C. Thomas of Hye, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Adler of 435 Convent avenue announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Sadie Adler, to George Meyer.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Bodine Griffin of Garden City have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Bette Eva Bradley, to Robert Conrad Miller. Their wedding will be celebrated in June.

Formal announcement has been made by Mr. and Mrs. Harvie Caleb Harris of Brooklyn of the engagement of their daughter, Miss Rena Holmes Harris, to Alfred Gardner, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred A. Gardner of this city. Miss Harris is a member of the senior class at Wellesley. Mr. Gardner was in the 1918 class at Harvard when he entered the army. He recently returned from

France, after a year's service, and has resumed his studies at Cambridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Maier of 150 East Seventy-eighth street have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Jessie Maier, to Walter M. Weis of this city, who has recently been discharged from the army. Miss Maier has been active in canteen work.

Announcement has been made by Mrs. Robert Johnson of 28 South Oxford street, Brooklyn, of the engagement of her daughter, Miss Harriet Johnson, to Capt. Douglas Campbell Patterson, U. S. M. C., of this city.

The engagement has been announced of Miss Lucille Elaine Morrison, daughter of Mrs. William Morrison and a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Fletcher of the Waldorf-Astoria, to Theodore Edward Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Hall. During the war Mr. Hall served as a Lieutenant in the 6th Forest of the army. No date has been set for the wedding.

One of the first weddings of last week was that of Miss Helen Louise Griswold, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Griswold of Evanston, Ill., to James Waugh Sanders, which took place Monday afternoon in the chantry of St. Thomas's Church. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Ernest M. Sires, and was followed by a reception at the Hotel St. Regis. The bride wore a gown of white satin made with a court train and a tulle veil held in place with a coronet of orange blossoms. She was attended by her sister, Miss Laura Griswold, Miss Amy Requa of San Francisco, Miss Harriet Hopkins, Miss Mary Louise Walcott of Evanston and Mrs. Newell Wedd of Montclair, N. J.

Mr. Sanders, who is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Sanders of Montclair, had C. Huldane Johnson, Jr., of Montclair for his best man. His ushers were Capt. Newell Wedd of Montclair, Martin Johnson of Newark, Frank Dale Warren of Plainfield and Alexander Carver of Yonkers. After their wedding trip Mr. Sanders and his bride will make their home in Montclair.

On Tuesday in the Church of the Transfiguration Miss Valeria B. Eickelstaf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Bickelstaf of 134 West Fifty-second street, became the bride of Ensign Robert Virdean Bethel, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Bethel of Chicago. The ceremony, which was at noon, was performed by the Rev. Dr. George C. Houghton, and was followed by a small wedding breakfast at the Hotel Astor. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a costume of white silk and a hat of pale pink taffeta. She carried pink roses. There were no bridal attendants, best man or ushers.

Ensign Bethel and his bride have gone South on their wedding trip. They will reside in Philadelphia.

Another wedding in the Church of the Transfiguration on Tuesday was that of Miss Charlotte Janet Langenbach, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick James Langenbach of Norwich, Conn., to Howard Miller of 137 East Thirty-fifth street. The Rev. Dr. George C. Houghton officiated. The bride recently returned from France, where she has been with the American Red Cross at the Meves-Bulcy Hospital Centre. Mr. Miller and his bride will spend the summer at their home in Great Kills, Staten Island.

The wedding of Miss Dorothy Kohn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Kohn, to Reginald A. Wurzbarger, son of the late Adolph Wurzbarger, took

place Tuesday evening at the home of her parents, 251 West Ninety-fifth street. During the war the bride served as a Lieutenant in the National League for Women's Service. Mr. Wurzbarger served about two years in the army. The couple will sail soon for France.

In the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Broadway and Seventy-first street, Miss Helen Connick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Connick of 223 West Seventy-second street, was married Thursday to Francis Charles Schwab. Owing to the recent death of the bride's father only relatives were asked to the reception which followed the ceremony. This was performed by the Rev. Dr. Ralph G. William J. Ennis. She entered the church with her brother, Andrew J. Connick, and wore a travelling gown of dark blue silk with hat to correspond. She carried white orchids and lilies of the valley. Her sister, Mrs. Walter P. Fitch, Jr., was her only attendant and was dressed in gray chamois. She carried pink roses and white lilies. Leo Schwab was his brother's best man.

The wedding of Miss Florence L. Arnstein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Arnstein of 600 West End avenue, to Clarence Oppenheimer of Chicago, took place Wednesday evening in the Louis XVI. room of the Hotel St. Regis. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Joseph Silverman and was followed by a reception and dinner in the marble banquet room. The bride was attended by Mrs. Max L. Arnstein, Mrs. Charles Davidson and Miss Hattie Sachs. The best man was the bridegroom's brother, Edgar Oppenheimer, and the ushers were Albert H. Arnstein, Max L. Arnstein, Norman Goetz and Charles Davidson.

Mr. Oppenheimer and his bride will spend their honeymoon in California and on their return make their home in this city.

Another recent bride was Miss Benita Rosling Guggenheim, daughter of Mrs. Benjamin N. Guggenheim, who was married on May 15 to Lieut. Edward B. Mayer, Air Force, U. S. A., at her mother's home, 270 Park avenue. Her father was lost on the Titanic. He was a brother of Daniel and Simon R. Guggenheim. Lieut. Mayer is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Mayer. He recently returned from overseas, where he served with the American Expeditionary Forces for more than a year. For the present the young people will make their home with Mrs. Guggenheim.

The guests of honor will be the Rev. Dr. George C. Houghton, the Rev. C. A. Brown, Dr. and Mrs. Roy Copeland, Mrs. Charles S. Whitman, Mrs. A. M. Palmer, Mrs. Noble McConnell, Mrs. Leonard L. Hill, Mrs. Harry Holt Day, Miss Ada Patterson, Mrs. George E. Owens, Mrs. Harry Lilly, Mr. and Mrs. Colburn, Miss Diantha Pattison, Miss Virginia Pearson, Frank Bacon, Mrs. Belle de Rivera, Mrs. George H. Childs, Mrs. Axel O. Johnson, Mrs. Thomas Slack, Miss Jane Manner, Mrs. Marie Cross Newhaus, Mrs. Walter S. Comly, Mrs. Austin N. Palmer, Miss Hannah Babcock, Mrs. C. C. Marshall, Mrs. Louis Ralston, Mrs. John M. Gallagher, Mrs. J. W. Leeb, Mrs. Milly Thorne and Mrs. Frederick W. Willey.

The returned soldiers who will be entertained by the league will include Sergeant Robert Westford Allen, Sergeant Reginald Allen, Frederick Percy Howard, Lawrence Barretto, Albert A. Bassett, Julian P. Moreland, Edwin S. Ferris and Charles Sadler. Mrs. Claude Hagen, chairman of reception, will be assisted by a committee composed of Mrs. Evelyn M. Dinan, Mrs. Frank W. Redding, Mrs. J. B. Thompson, Mrs. Ida C. Nahn, Mrs. Adolph Leiser, Mrs. Margaret Sweet, Mrs. Emma Howard, Mrs. Douglas Bailey Doug, Mrs. Louis Hendricks, Mrs. Peter C. Ritchie, Jr.,

Brighton, N. Y., and who recently returned from France, where he was captain of the 305th Infantry, Seventy-seventh Division. Mrs. Duncan H. Brown was the bride's only attendant. The bride, who is an active worker in the Red Cross Motor Corps, has five brothers who have been in the service, three of whom served in France. They are, in addition to the chaplain, Major William H. Brown of the Sixteenth Engineers Medical Reserve Corps; Thomas F. Brown, Jr., Joseph Brown of Base Hospital No. 8 and Charles A. Brown.

Miss E. Derrien Riley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester H. Riley, was married to Lieut. Julius Lynch Pliland, Thirtieth United States Infantry, on the afternoon of May 17 in St. John's Episcopal Church, Larchmont, by the pastor, the Rev. Richard Cobden. The bride was attended by Miss Margaret Barrett as maid of honor and Miss Flora Pliland, Miss Alice Brevoort Towne, Miss Mary Brevoort Towne, Miss Lydia Belle Bennett and Miss Helen Leo as bridesmaids. The Misses Helen and Lucy Jackson were flower girls.

Lieut. Robert Leonard Johnson of West Point was the best man and the ushers were Lieuts. W. J. McCone of Fort Jay, F. G. Hillard of Camp Dix, Joseph Kullman of West Point and Edward W. Smith of Camp Devens. The ceremony was followed by a reception under a marquee on the lawn of Mr. and Mrs. F. Proctor, grandparents of the bride. Lieut. Pliland and his bride have gone to San Diego for their honeymoon. He will leave on June 4 for Siberia.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Gerken of 23 West Seventy-sixth street and their family have gone to Cedar Knoll Farm, their country home at Bedford Hills, N. Y., for the summer.

THE Professional Woman's League, Mrs. Helen Whitman Ritchie president, will hold its twenty-sixth annual reception and installation of officers to-morrow afternoon at the Hotel Astor. Many distinguished guests are expected, including a number of returned soldiers, relatives of the members.

The guests of honor will be the Rev. Dr. George C. Houghton, the Rev. C. A. Brown, Dr. and Mrs. Roy Copeland, Mrs. Charles S. Whitman, Mrs. A. M. Palmer, Mrs. Noble McConnell, Mrs. Leonard L. Hill, Mrs. Harry Holt Day, Miss Ada Patterson, Mrs. George E. Owens, Mrs. Harry Lilly, Mr. and Mrs. Colburn, Miss Diantha Pattison, Miss Virginia Pearson, Frank Bacon, Mrs. Belle de Rivera, Mrs. George H. Childs, Mrs. Axel O. Johnson, Mrs. Thomas Slack, Miss Jane Manner, Mrs. Marie Cross Newhaus, Mrs. Walter S. Comly, Mrs. Austin N. Palmer, Miss Hannah Babcock, Mrs. C. C. Marshall, Mrs. Louis Ralston, Mrs. John M. Gallagher, Mrs. J. W. Leeb, Mrs. Milly Thorne and Mrs. Frederick W. Willey.

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At its last meeting of the year on next Saturday afternoon in the Astor Gallery of the Waldorf-Astoria the Women's Press Club will entertain a number of distinguished guests including Francis M. Hugo, Secretary of State; Major William A. Wilson, U. S. A.; Mrs. Mary Stokes MacNutt, Mrs. Helen Whitman Ritchie, Mrs. J. B. Dinan, Mr. and Mrs. John Stanton O'Leary, Mr. and Mrs. Patricia Conroy, Mrs. Adah Bolin, Mrs. Katherine A. Martin, Mrs. John S. Gallagher, Mrs. Henry Murray Calvert, and Mrs. W. F. Hessel.

The topic of the day will be "Education for Citizenship" which will be discussed from many angles by Mr. Hugo, John J. Boylan, Francis Wright, Misses Miss Helen Louise Johnson, Charles E. Guy and D. J. Theophilatos.

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GENERAL NOTES AND ACTIVITIES IN WORLD OF SOCIETY

Notes of Women's Clubs

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